

NATIONALTM COMICS

AUGUST
No. 55



The
BARKER
GIVES THE *BIRD*
TO THE HAWK!

STILL
60
PAGES
FOR
10¢

WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM

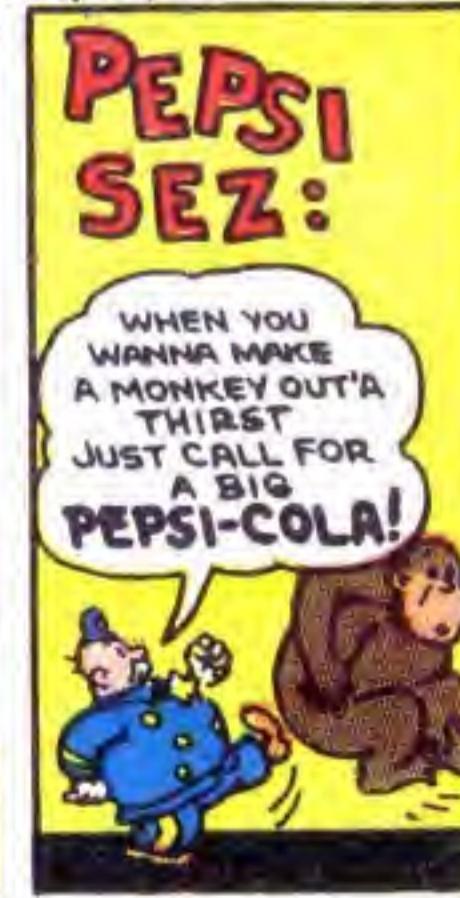
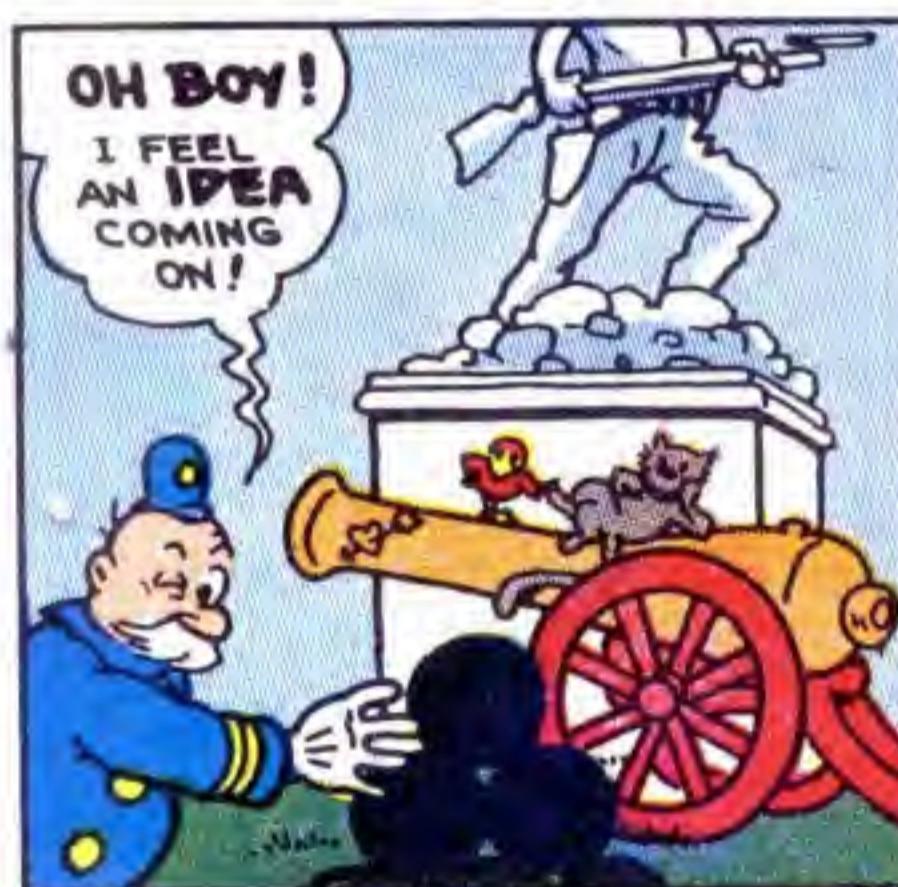


"PEPSI"...

THE

PEPSI-COLA

COKE!



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THE BARKER

HERE THEY ARE, FOLKS...
THE WORLD'S
MOST DARING STUNT MEN,
THE WILLS BROTHERS!

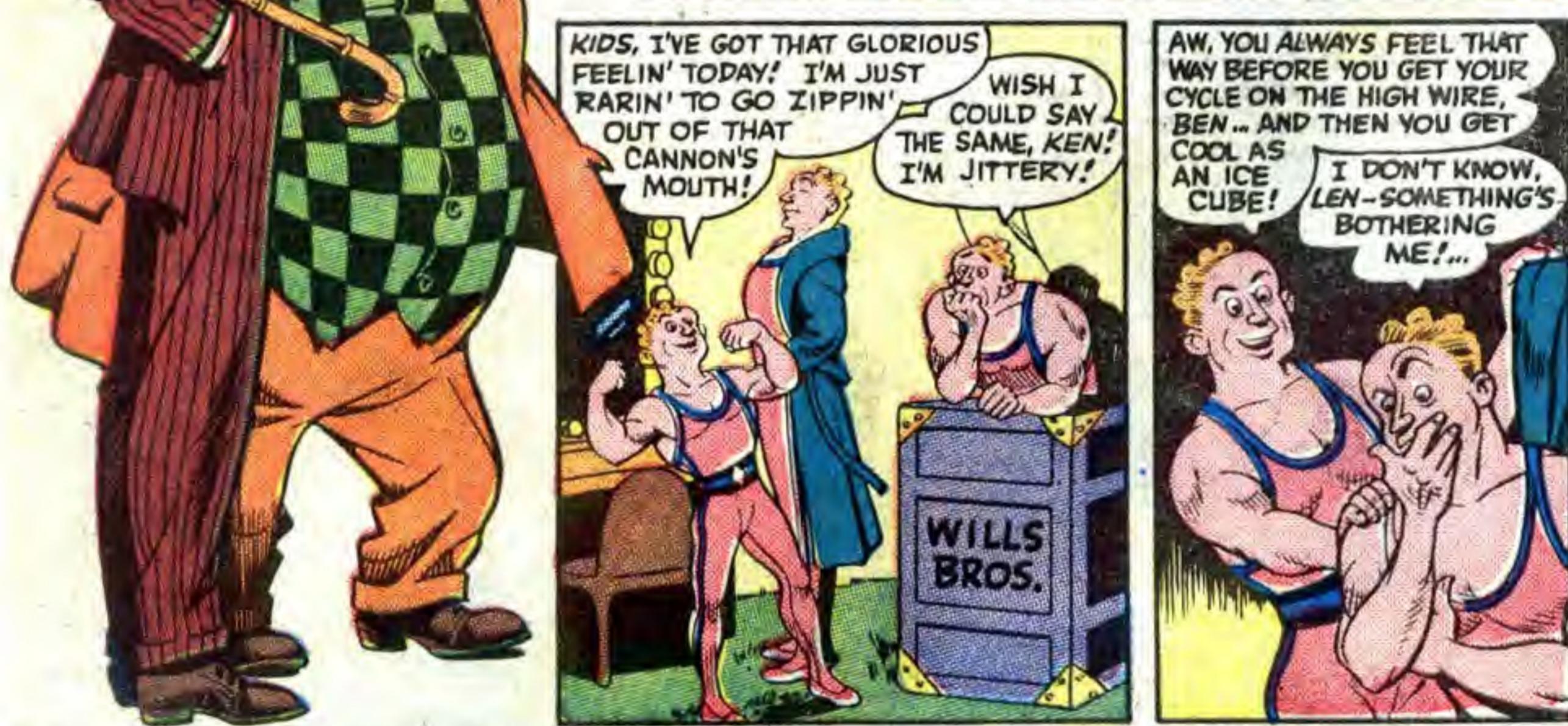
Even CARNIE CALAHAN, The Barker, becomes speechless when COLONEL LANE'S CIRCUS is turned into a mad melee by the dreaded **HAWK!**

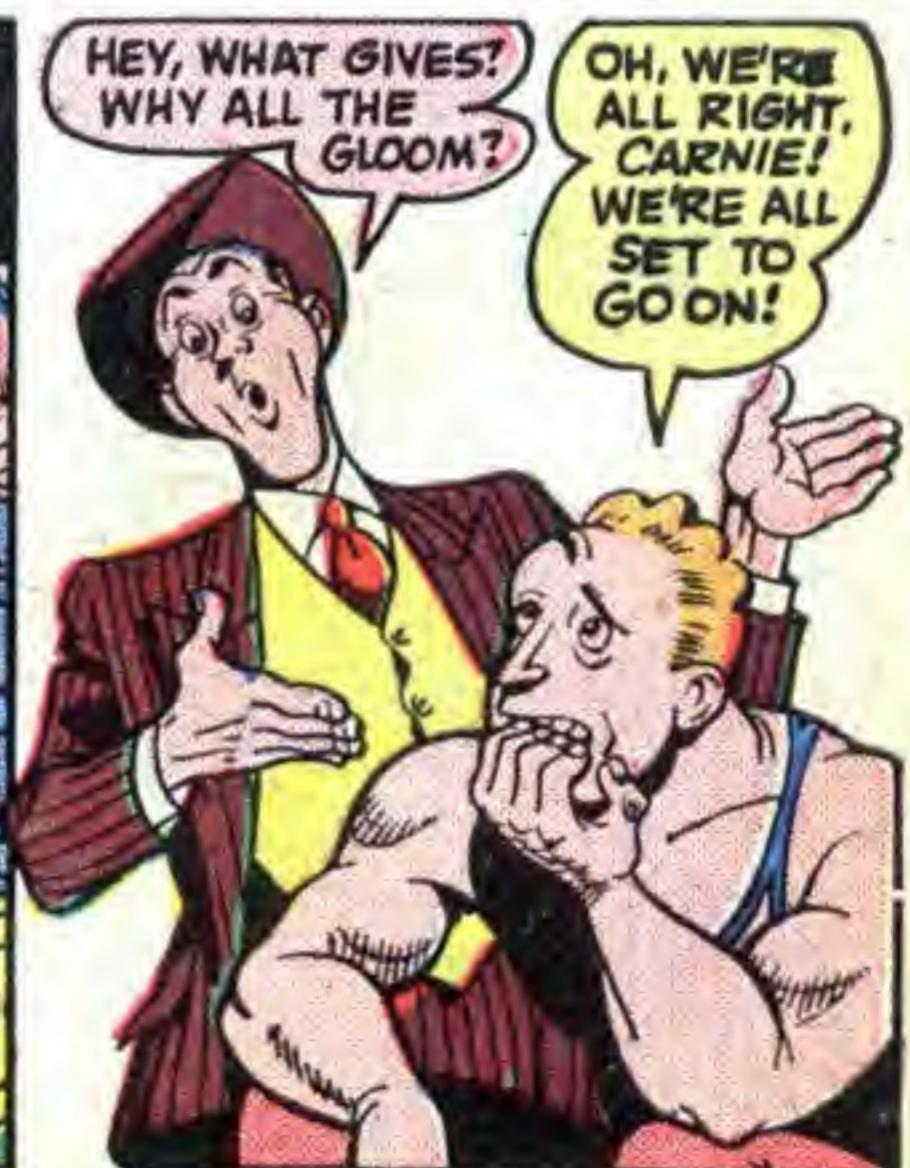
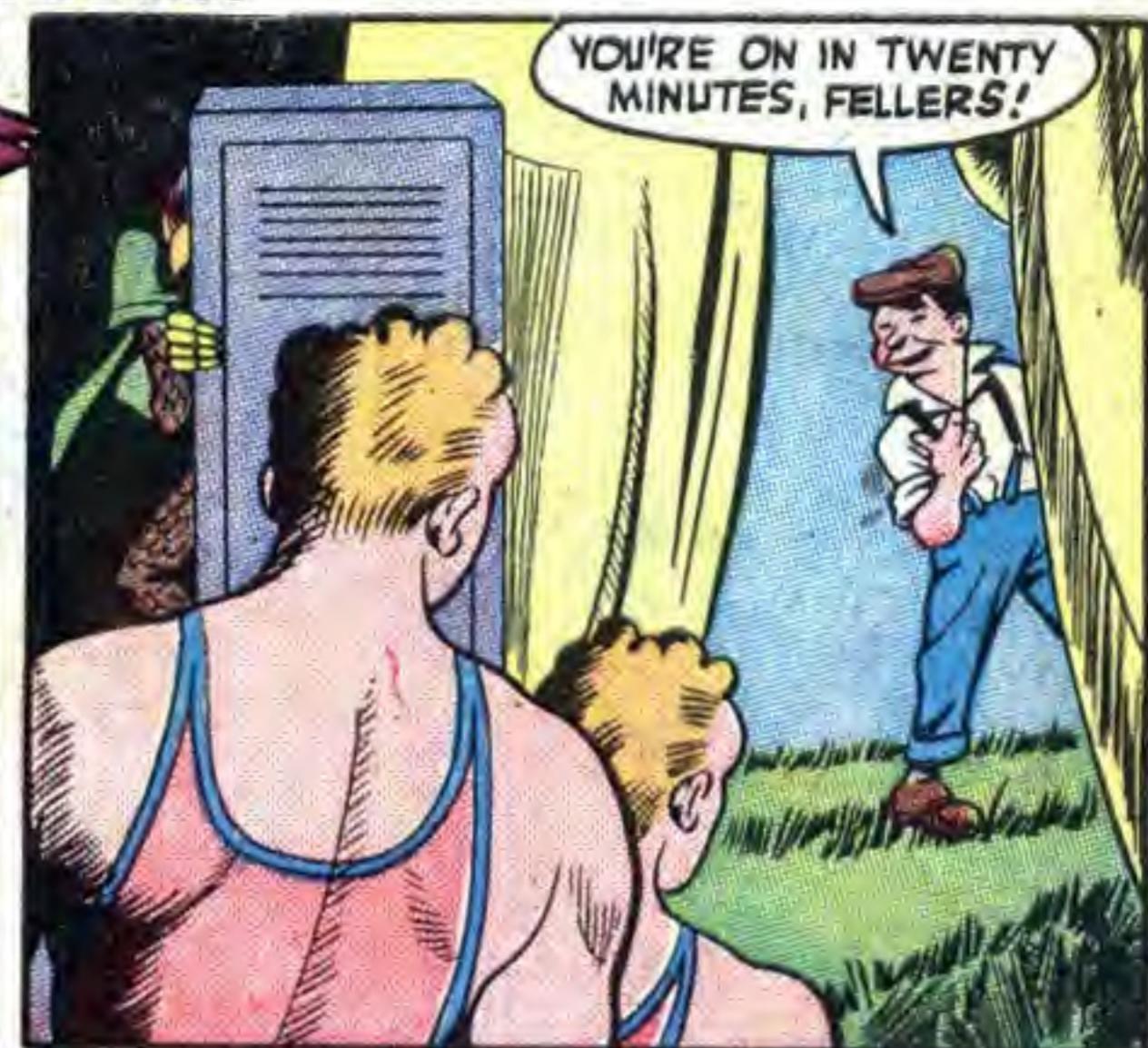
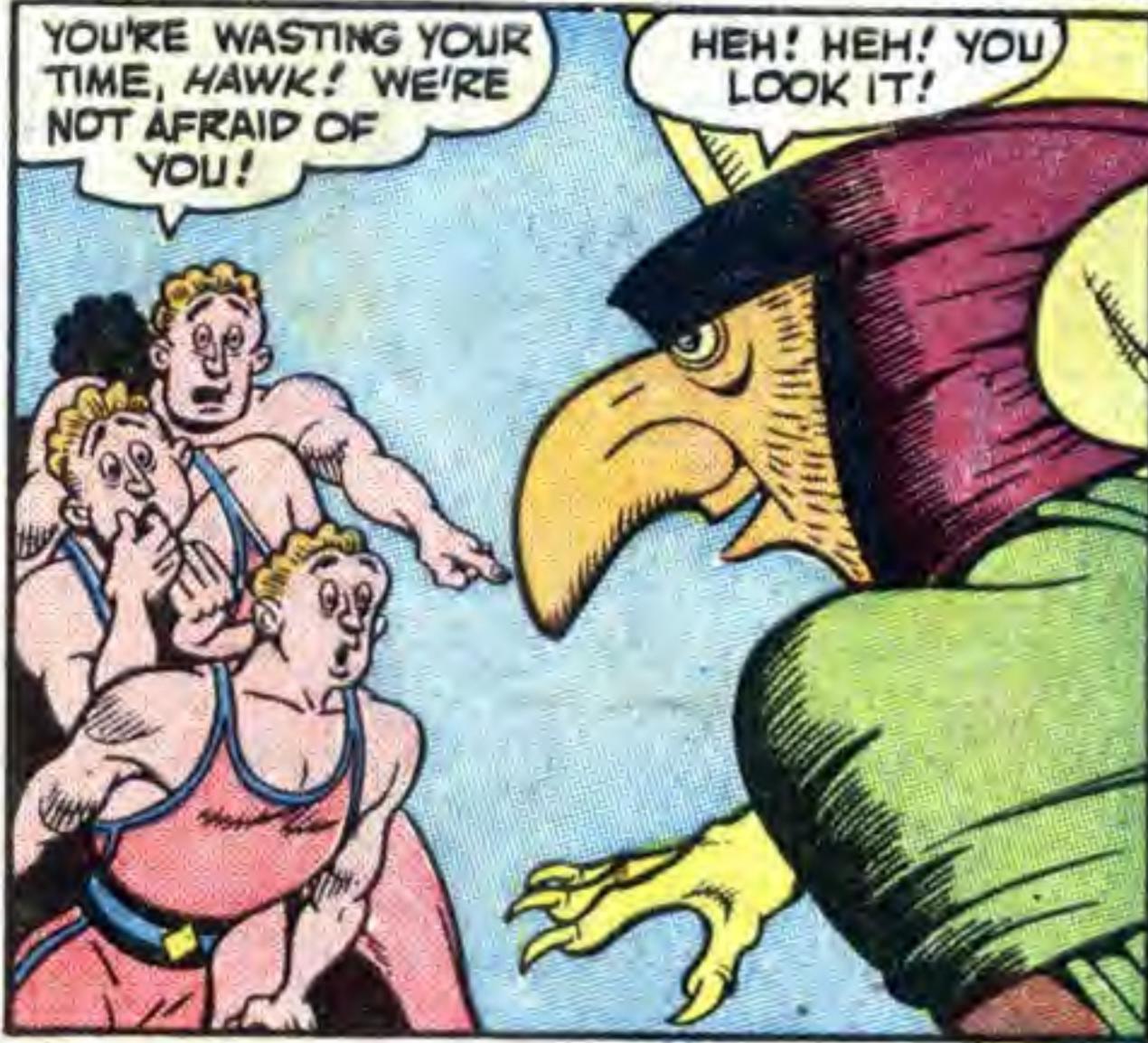
50¢

By
Klaus Nordling

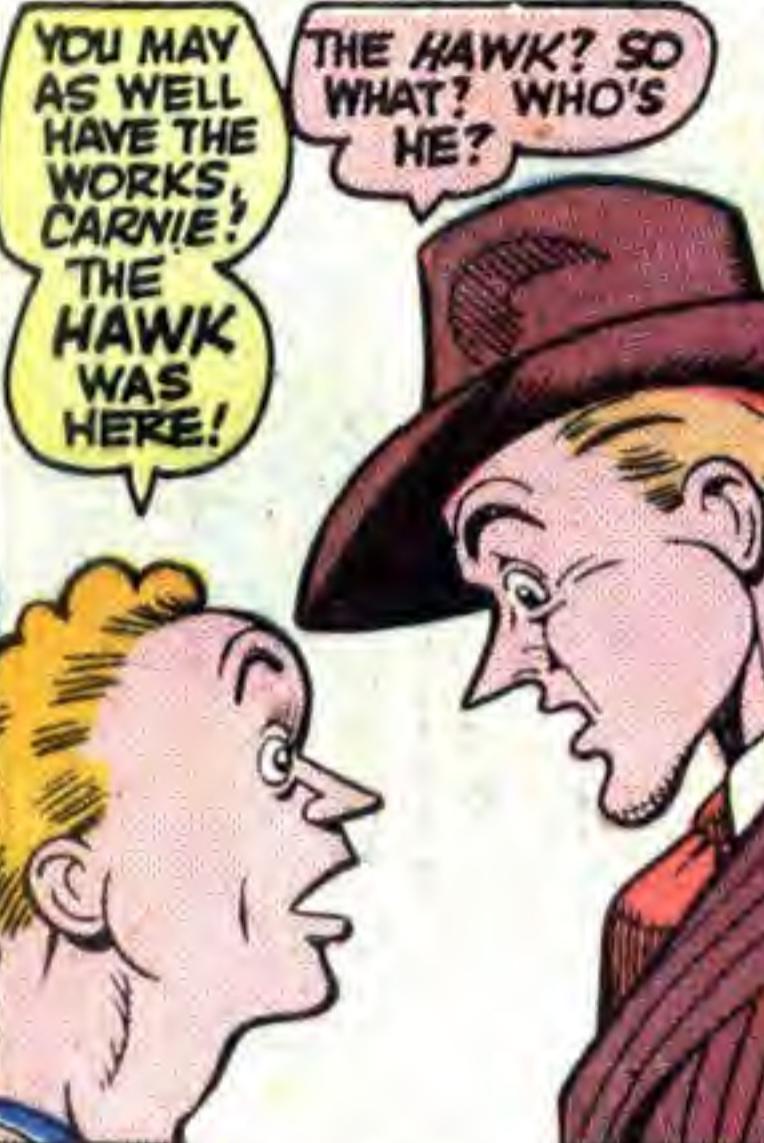
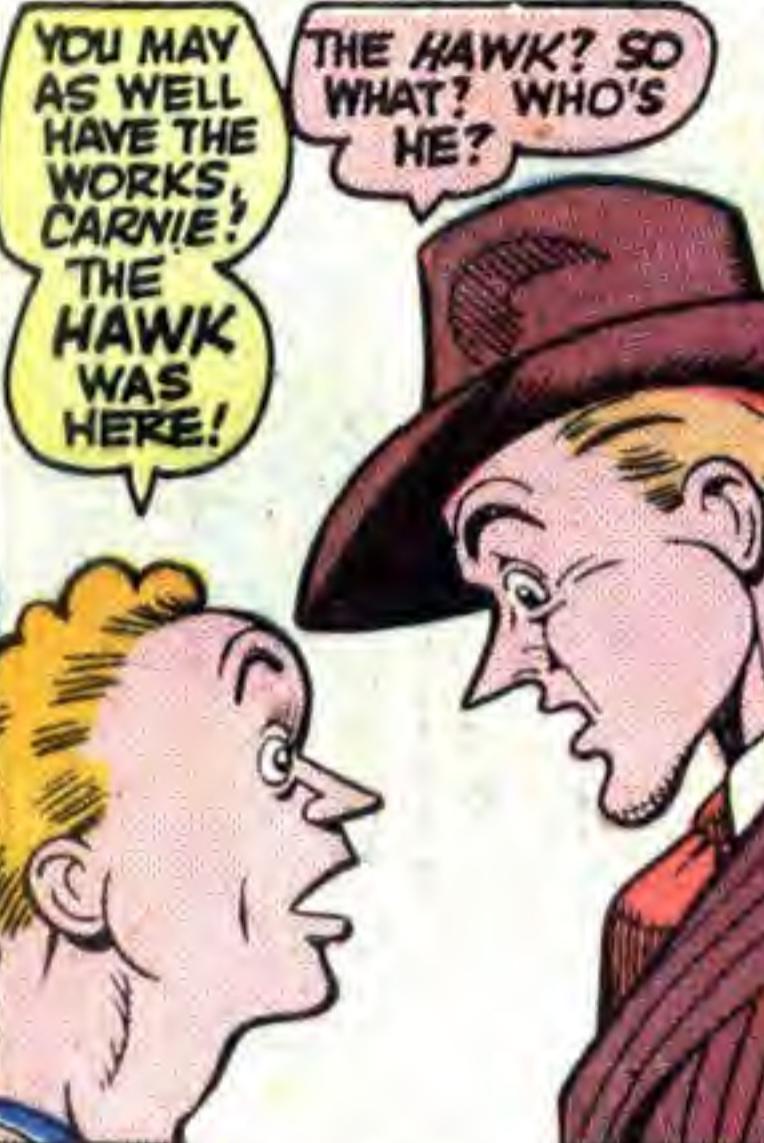


NATIONAL COMICS





NATIONAL COMICS



IT SOUNDS WHACKY, BUT THE STUNT MEN WHO WERE KILLED BY THE BIRD WERE THREATENED BY THE MAN CALLED THE HAWK!

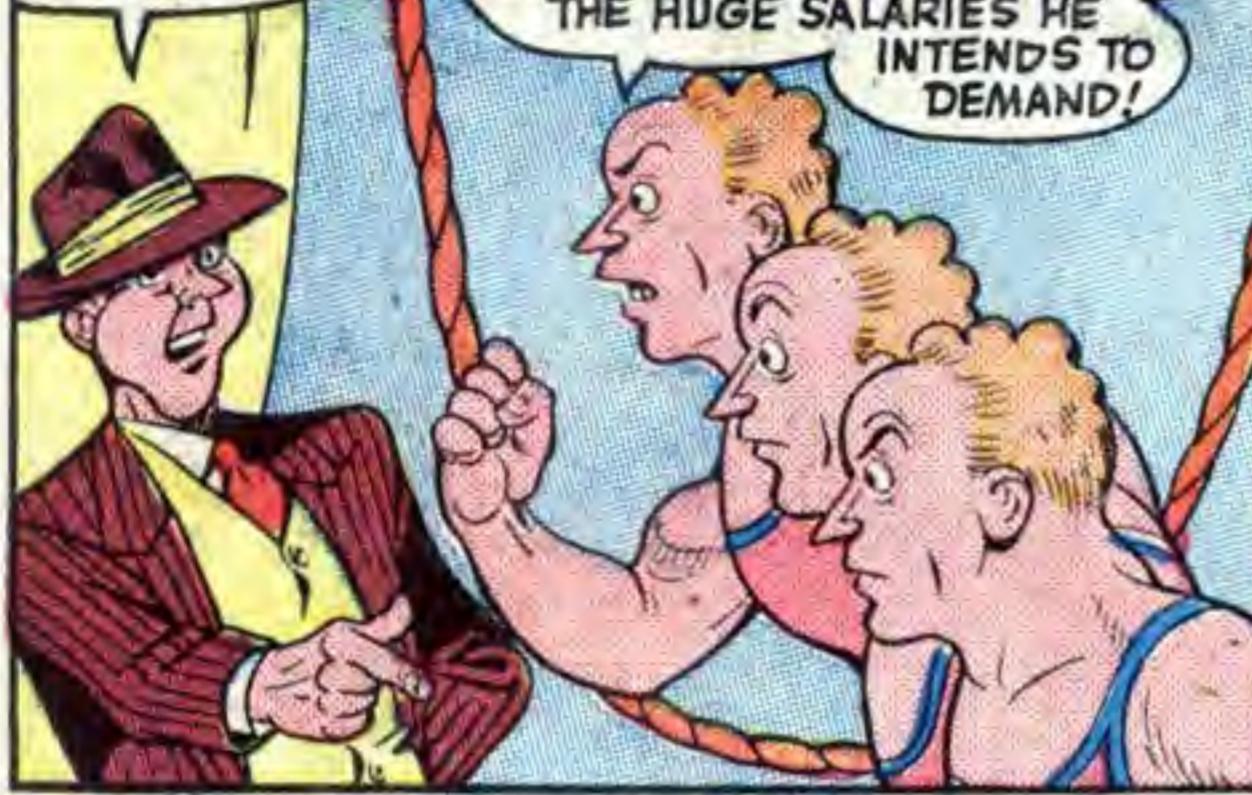


SAY, I THINK I SAW THE GUY YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT! HE LOOKED CREEPY ENOUGH! WHAT'S HIS ANGLE?

A PLENTY DIRTY ANGLE! I GUESS YOU KNOW STUNT MEN MAKE GOOD MONEY! IT'S THE HAWK'S IDEA TO HAVE EVERY CIRCUS STUNT MAN WORKING FOR HIM! THEN HE COULD SELL THEIR SERVICES AND KEEP MOST OF THE HUGE SALARIES HE INTENDS TO DEMAND!

IT SO HAPPENS THAT STUNT MEN ARE APT TO BE TOUGH AND SO FAR I DON'T THINK HE'S HAD ANY LUCK... BUT IF THESE MYSTERIOUS HAWK KILLINGS CONTINUE, HE MAY SCARE EVERY STUNT MAN IN THE WORLD INTO ACCEPTING HIS PROPOSITION!

NOT IF I CAN GET MY HANDS ON THAT RAT-- OR HAWK--OR --- KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND HIM?

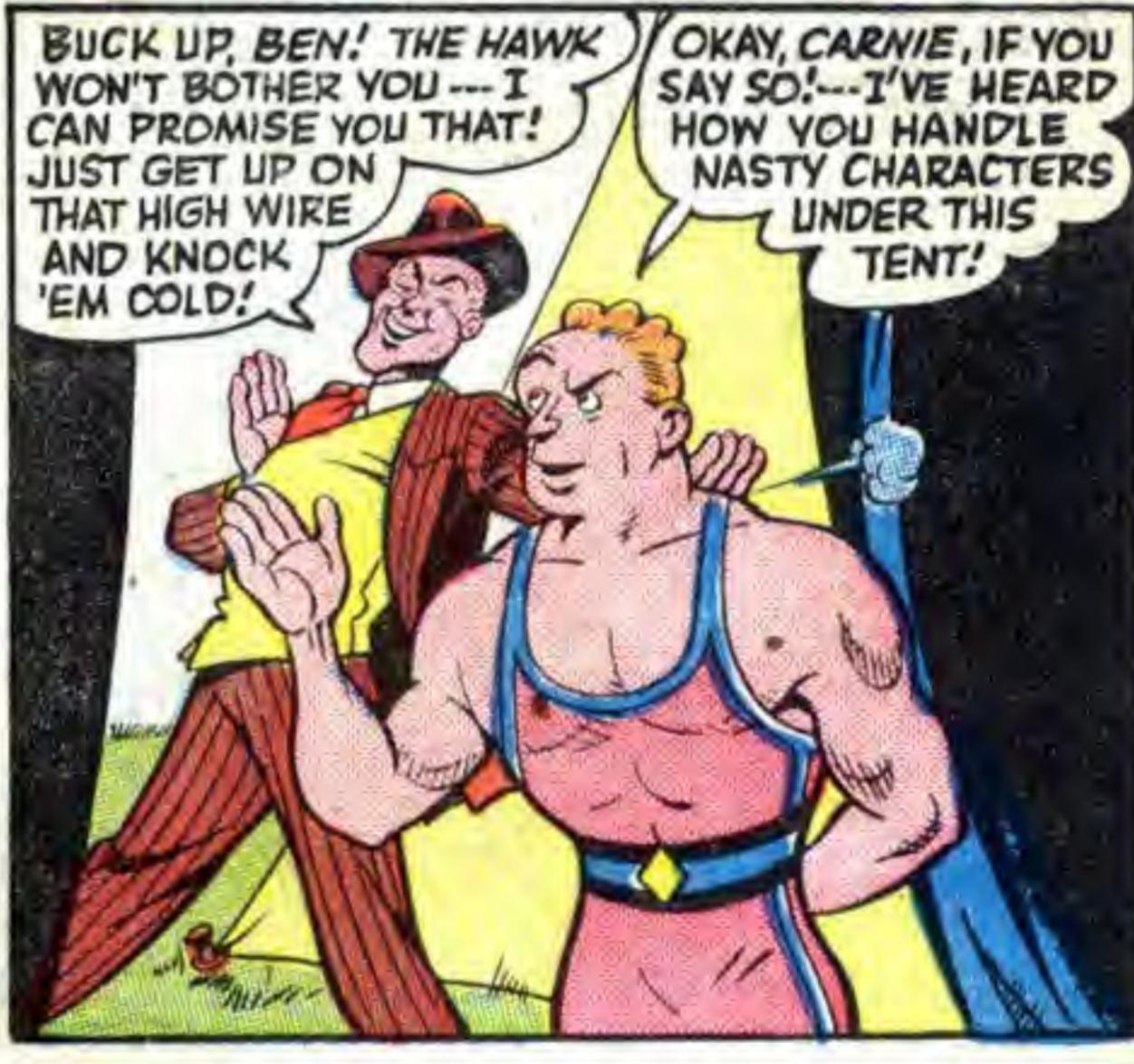
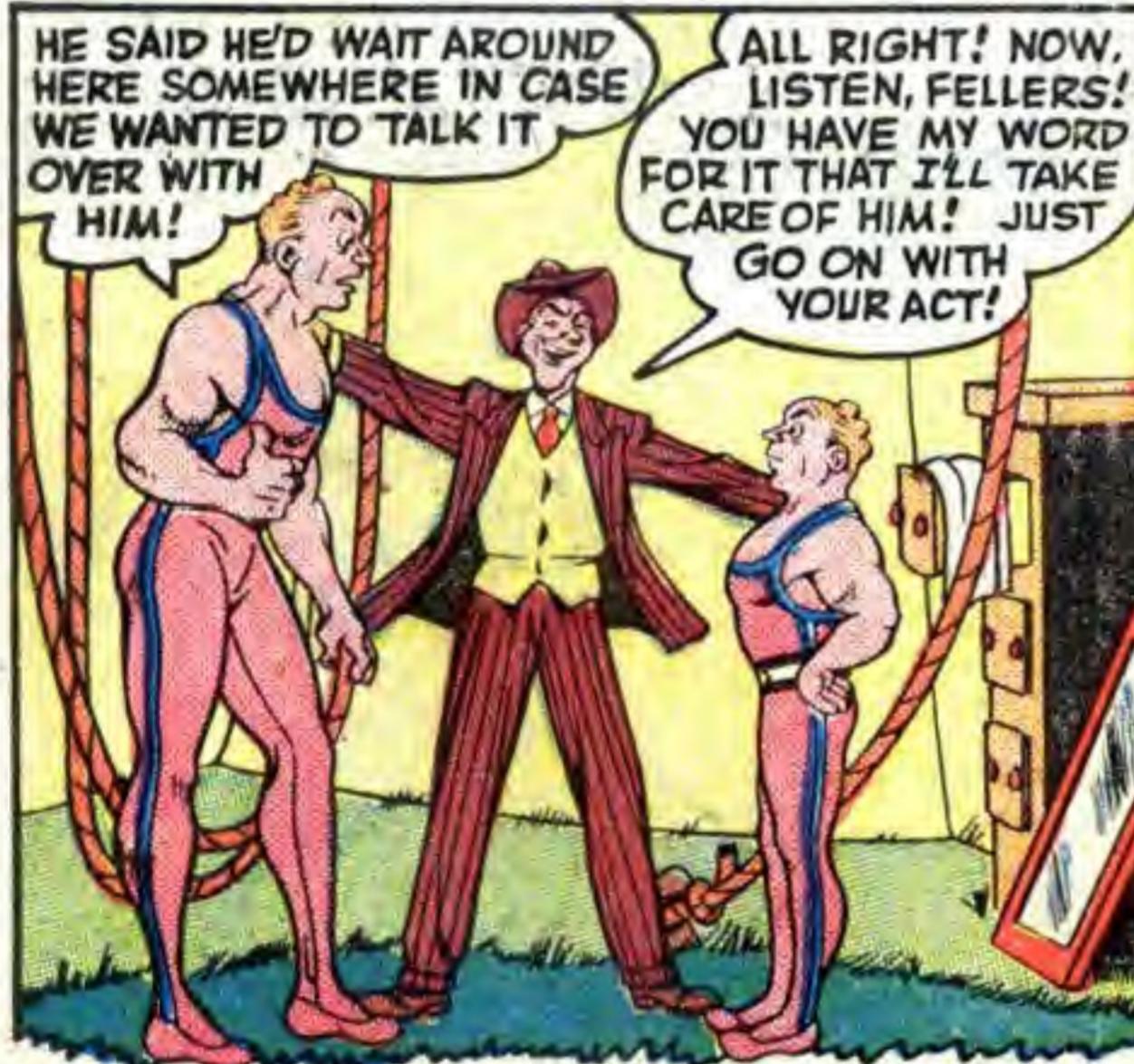


HE SAID HE'D WAIT AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE IN CASE WE WANTED TO TALK IT OVER WITH HIM!

ALL RIGHT! NOW, LISTEN, FELLERS! YOU HAVE MY WORD FOR IT THAT I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM! JUST GO ON WITH YOUR ACT!

BUCK UP, BEN! THE HAWK WON'T BOTHER YOU--- I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT! JUST GET UP ON THAT HIGH WIRE AND KNOCK 'EM COLD!

OKAY, CARNIE, IF YOU SAY SO!--I'VE HEARD HOW YOU HANDLE NASTY CHARACTERS UNDER THIS TENT!

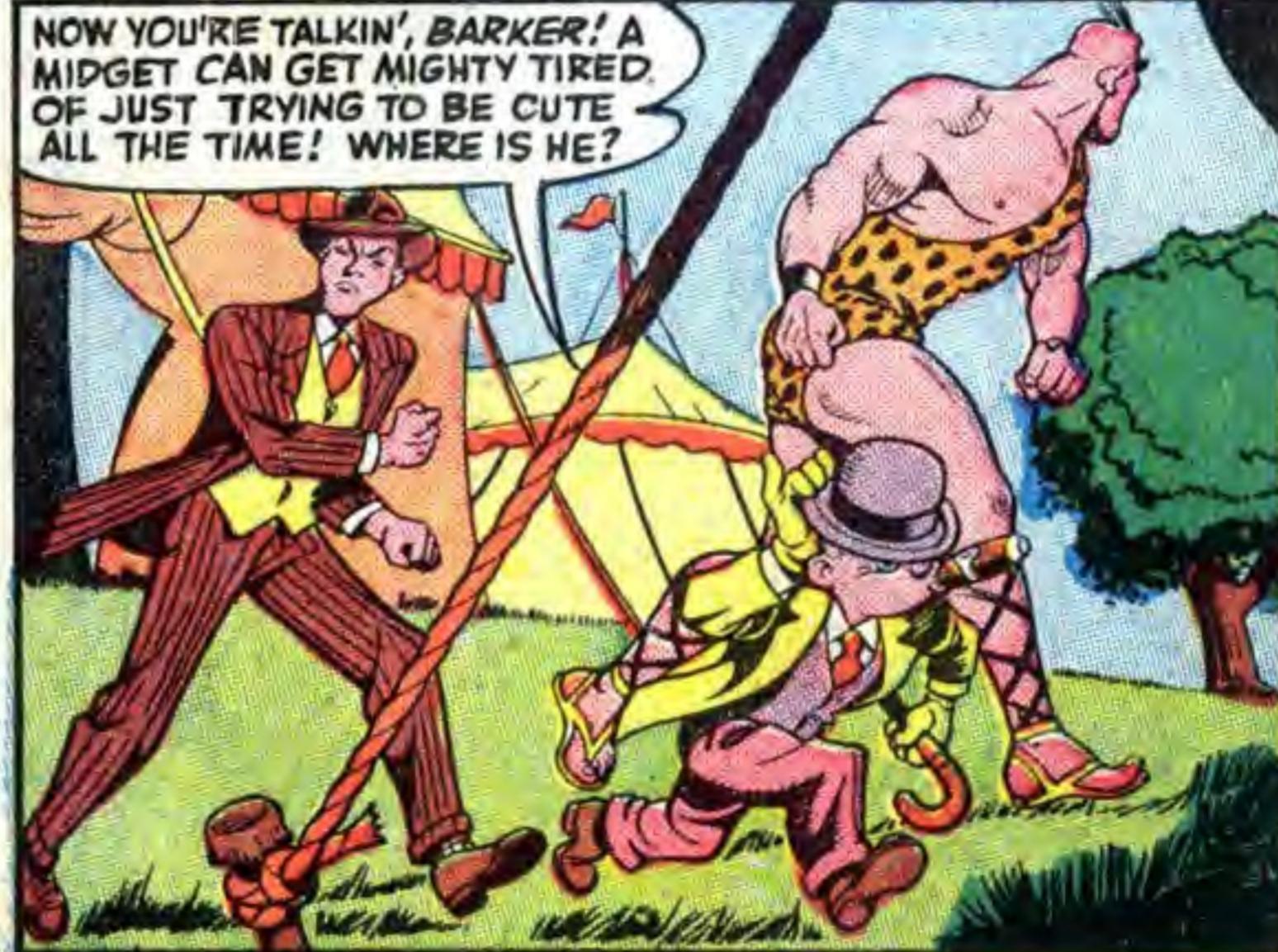


HEY! COME OUT FROM UNDER THAT SHROUD, SON! S'MATTER... YOUR STAR ACT QUIT OR SOMETHING?

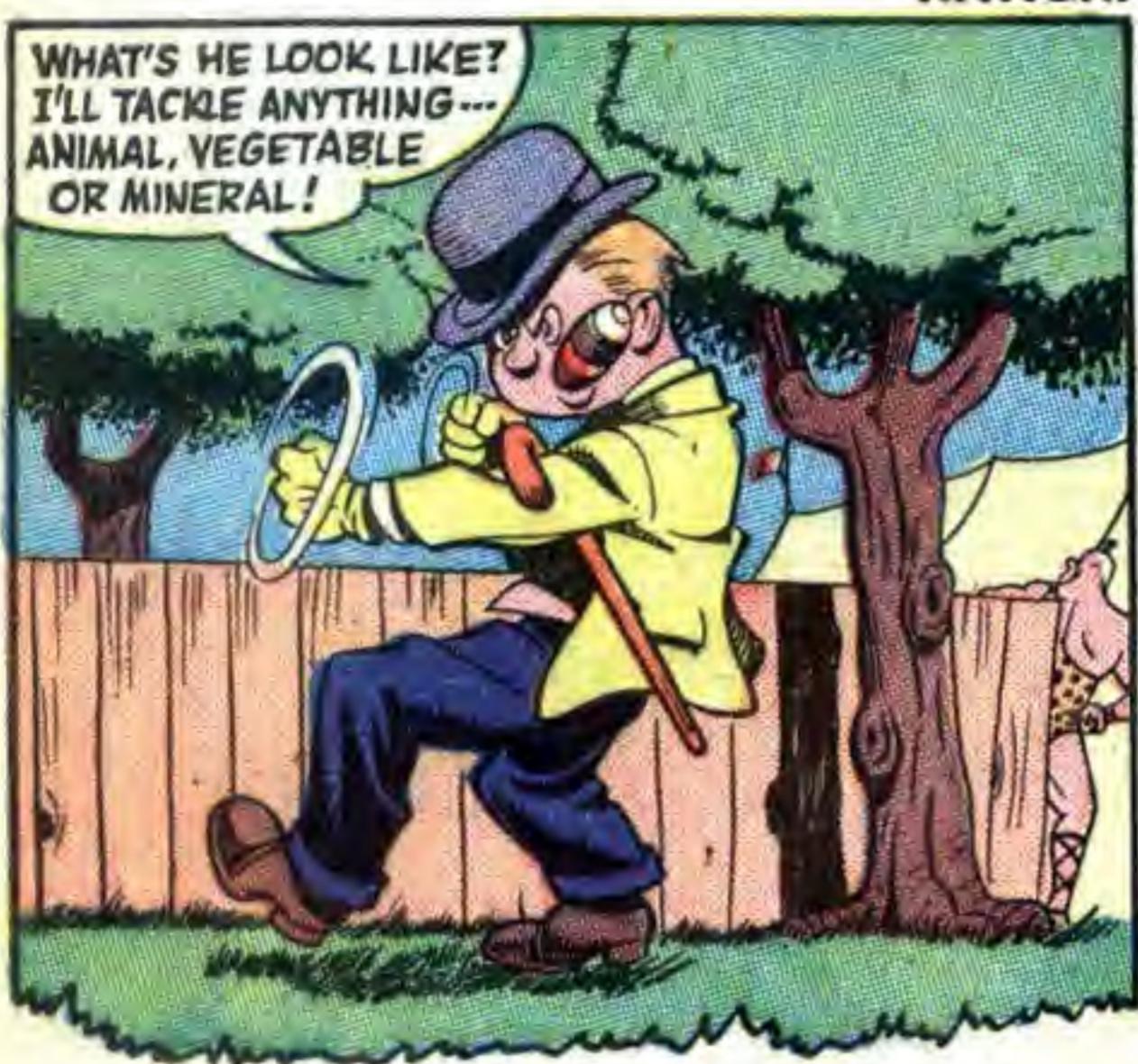
WORSE! THEY'RE SCARED! LISTEN, YOU TWO--COME WITH ME! I'M GONNA HUNT SOME TROUBLE!



NOW YOU'RE TALKIN', BARKER! A MIDGET CAN GET MIGHTY TIRED OF JUST TRYING TO BE CUTE ALL THE TIME! WHERE IS HE?



WHAT'S HE LOOK LIKE?
I'LL TACKLE ANYTHING...
ANIMAL, VEGETABLE
OR MINERAL!



YAWK! WHAT IS
IT ??



ALL RIGHT, HORROR BEAK...
TAKE YOUR PICK! IS IT THE
FIRST TRAIN OUT OF TOWN
OR A QUICK KNOCKOUT AND
THE LOCAL HOOSIEGOW?

YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR
OWN WEAKNESS, MY COCKY
FRIEND! I'M NOT
ACCUSTOMED TO ULTIMATUMS
FROM WORMS!

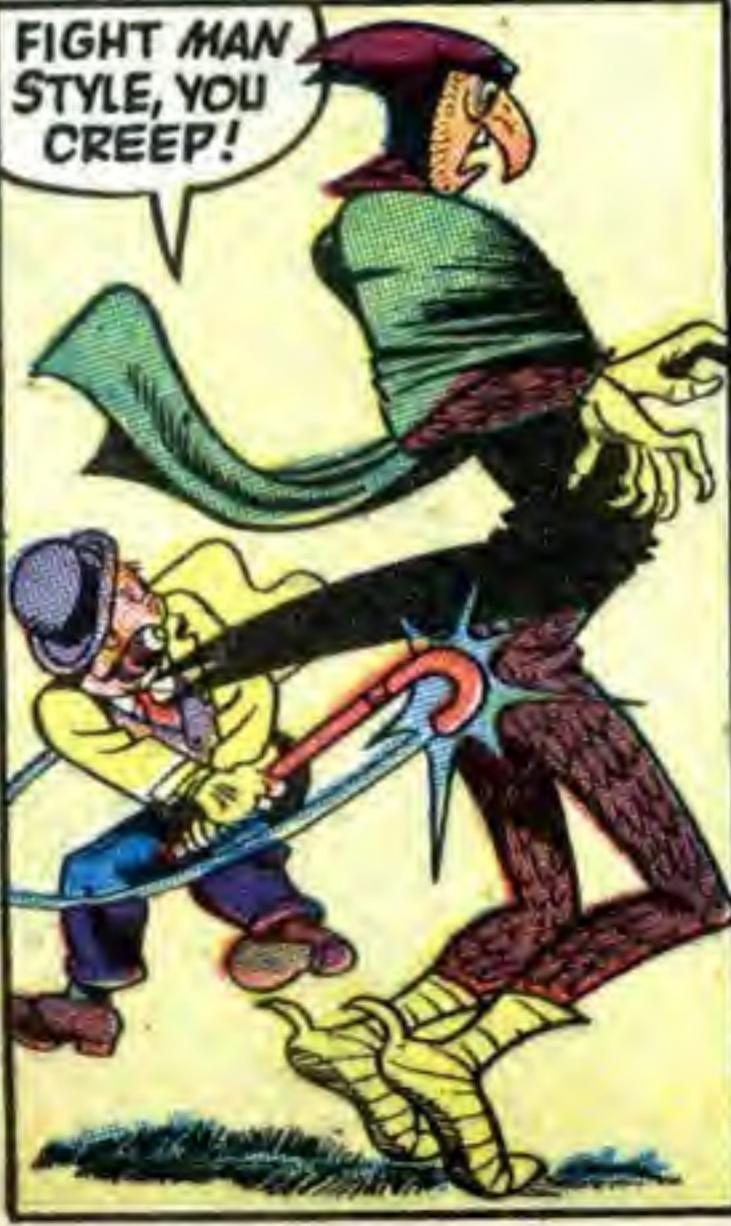


WELL, GET USED
TO 'EM, MUG! I
HAND OUT LOADS
OF 'EM TO ZOMBIES
LIKE YOU!



SILLY
MAN!
OWW! WHO
THREW THAT
RAKE?

FIGHT MAN
STYLE, YOU
CREEP!

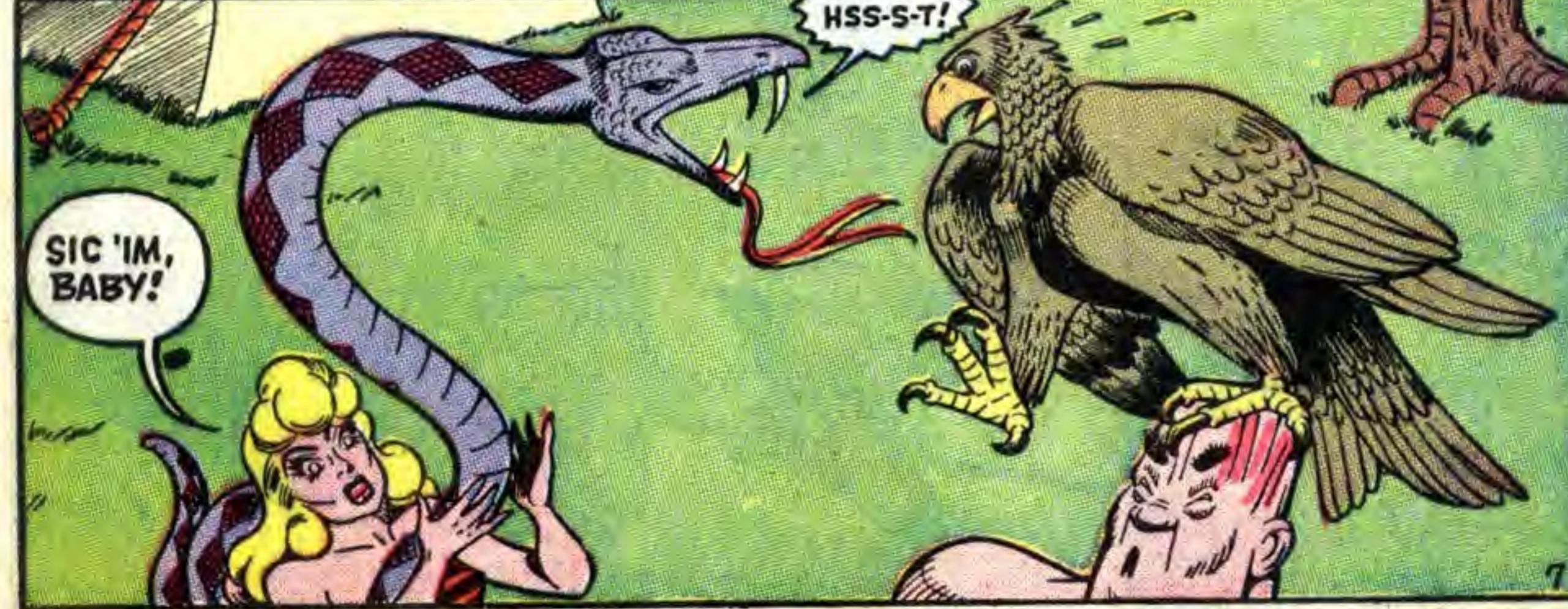
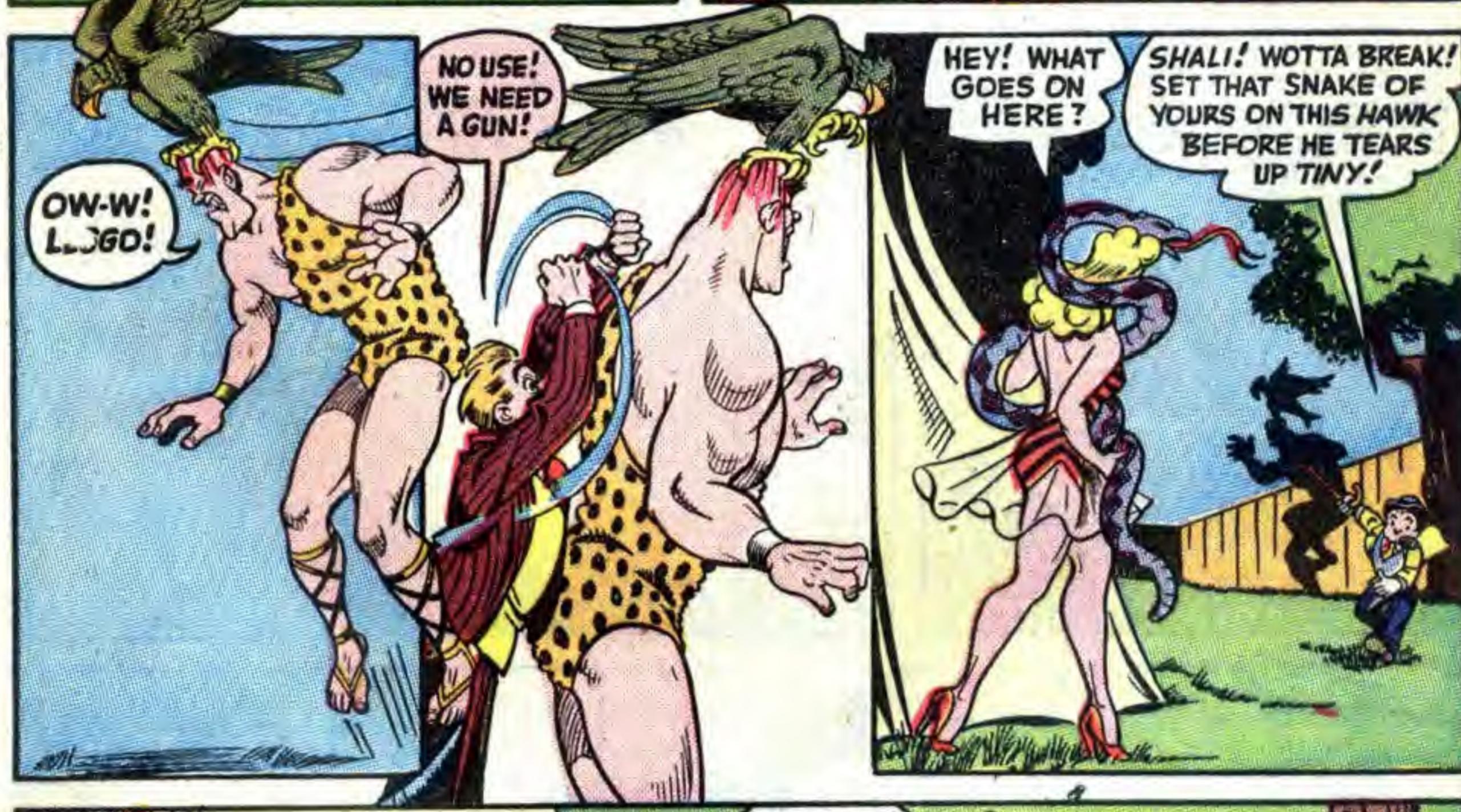
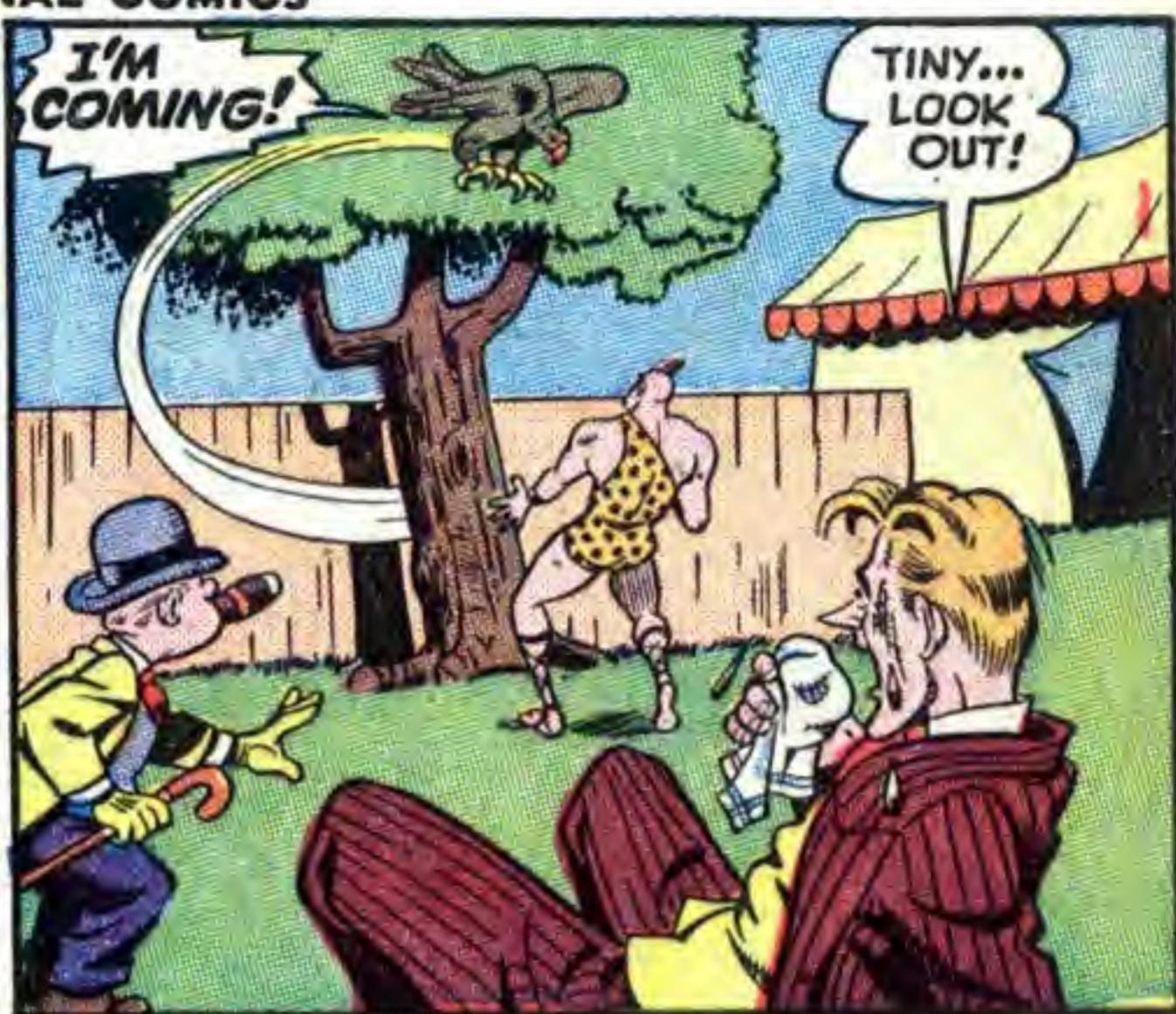


STAND BACK, YOU
FOOLS! I'D AS
SOON KILL YOU
AS ARGUE!

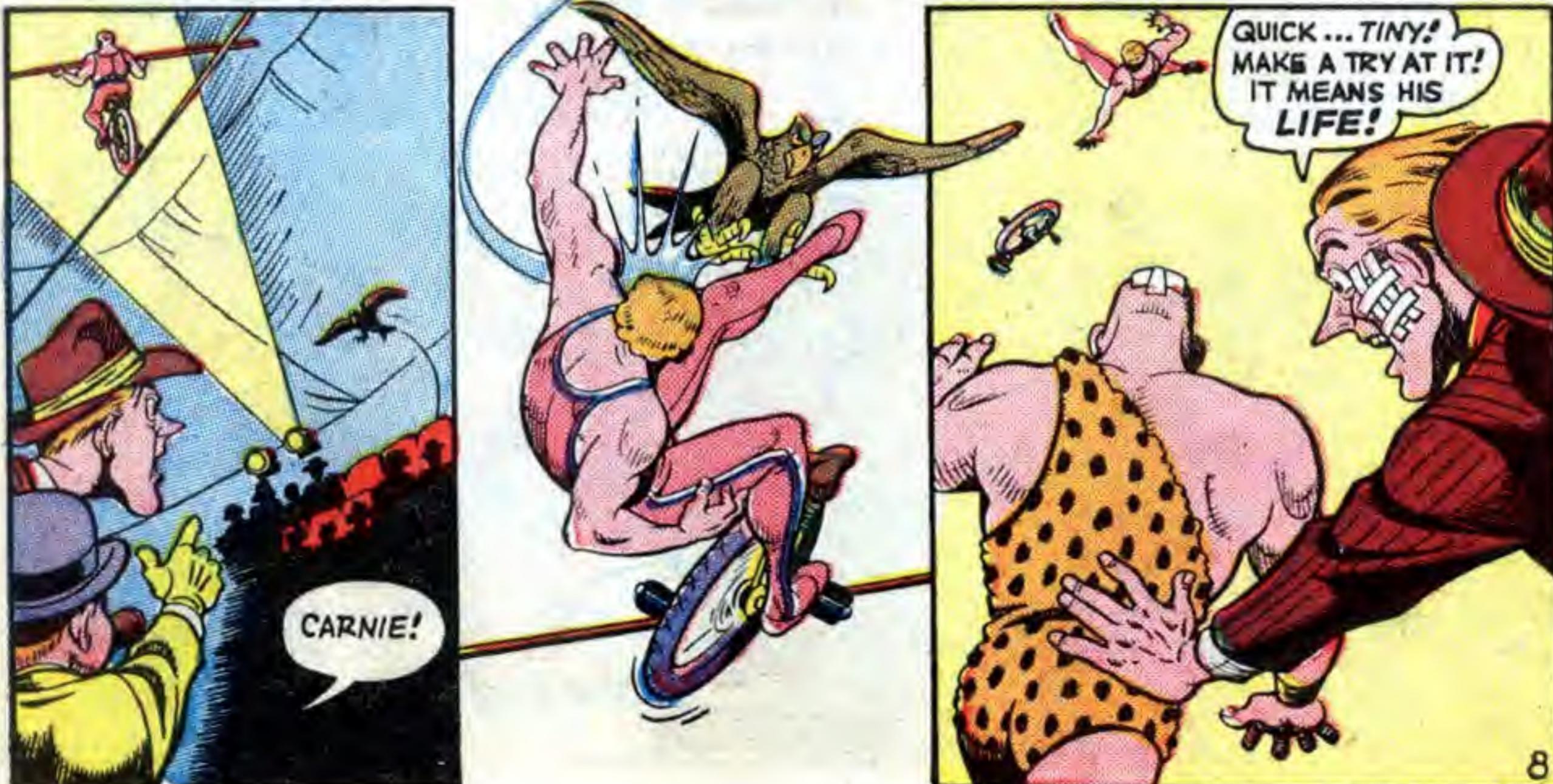
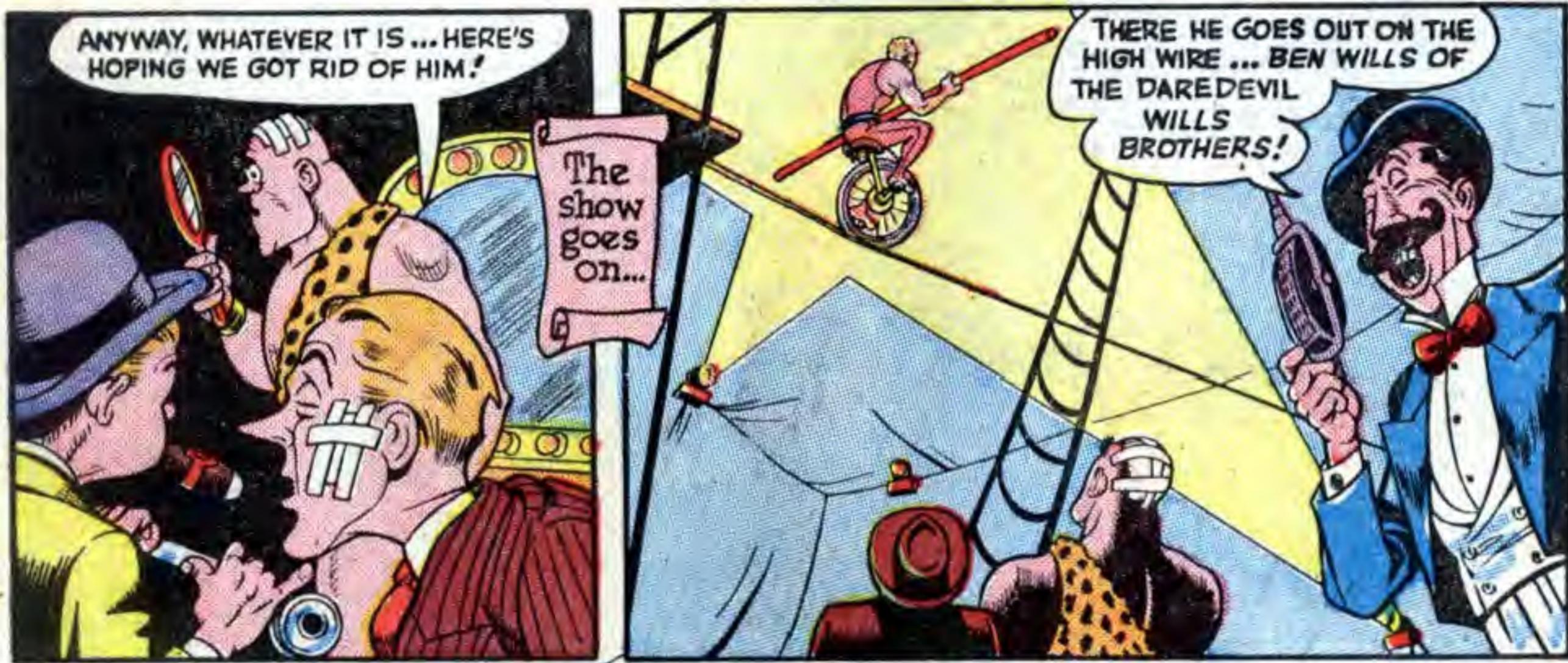
I'LL TAKE HIM,
MIDGE!



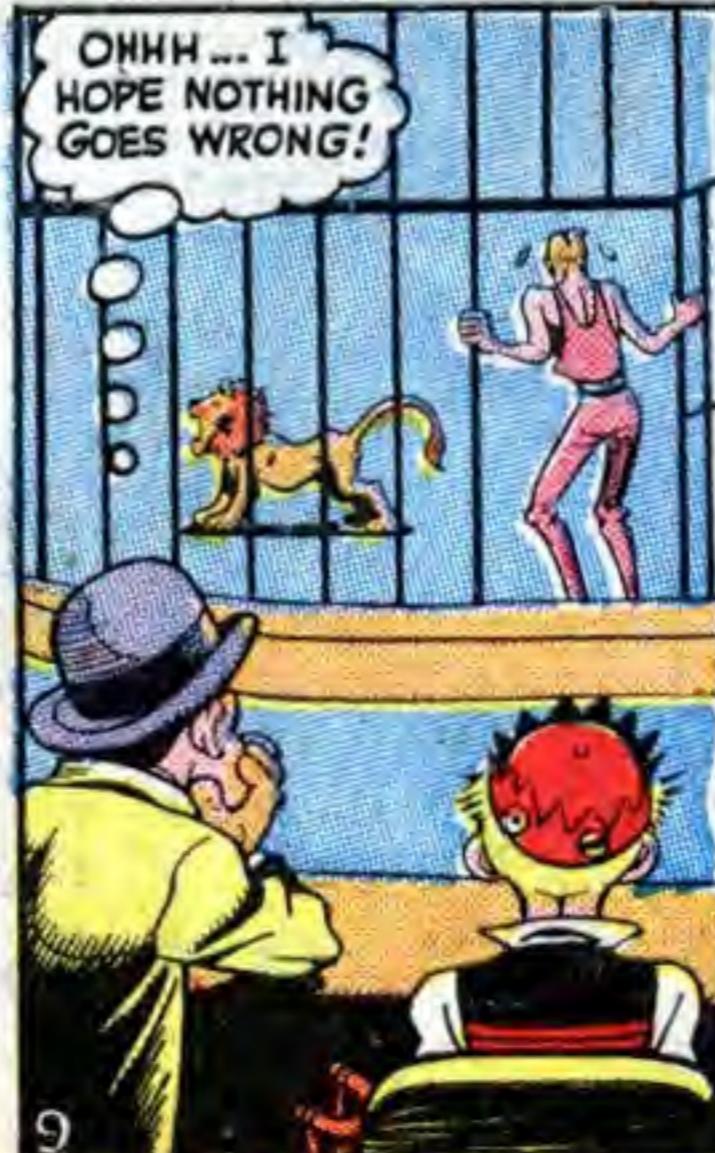
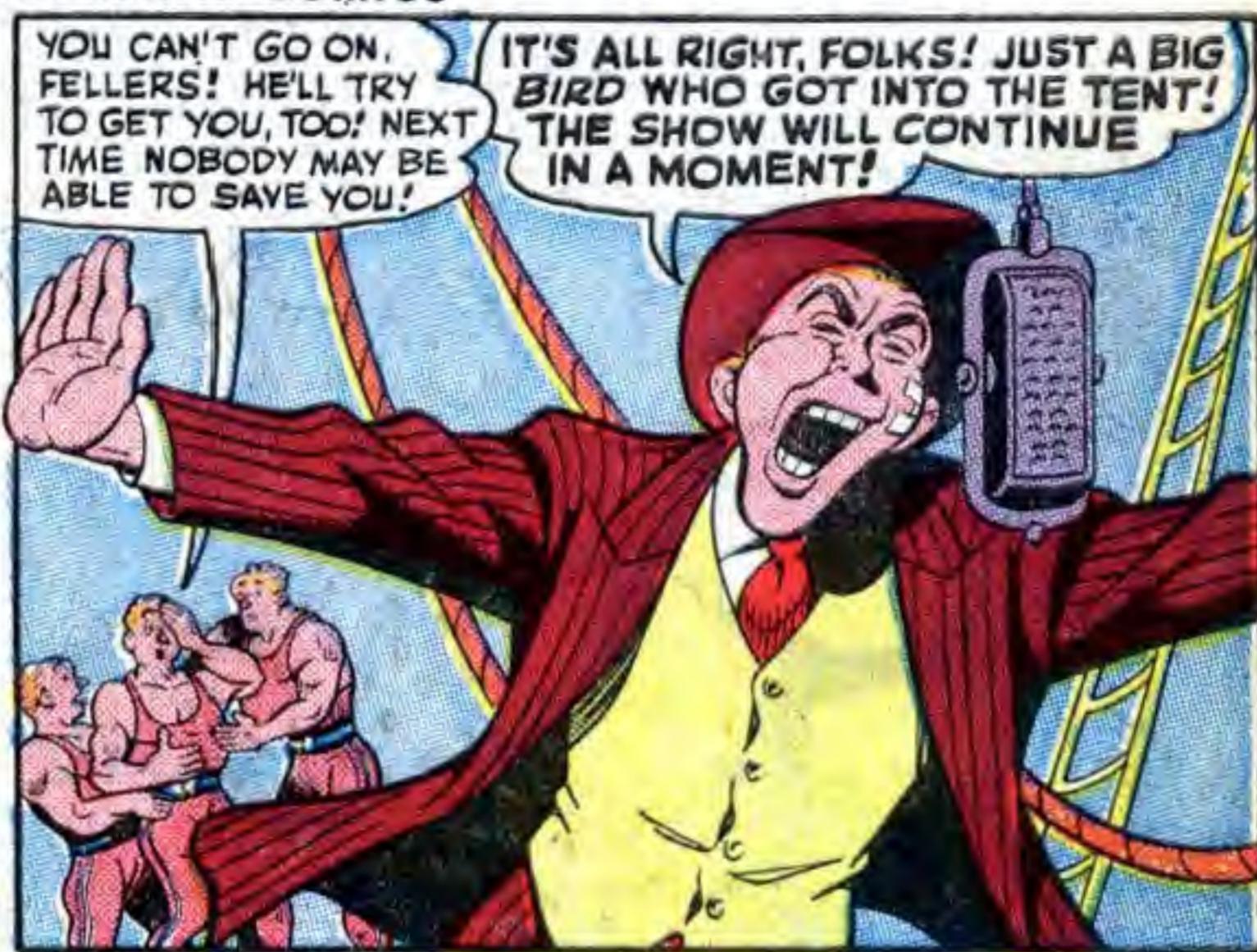
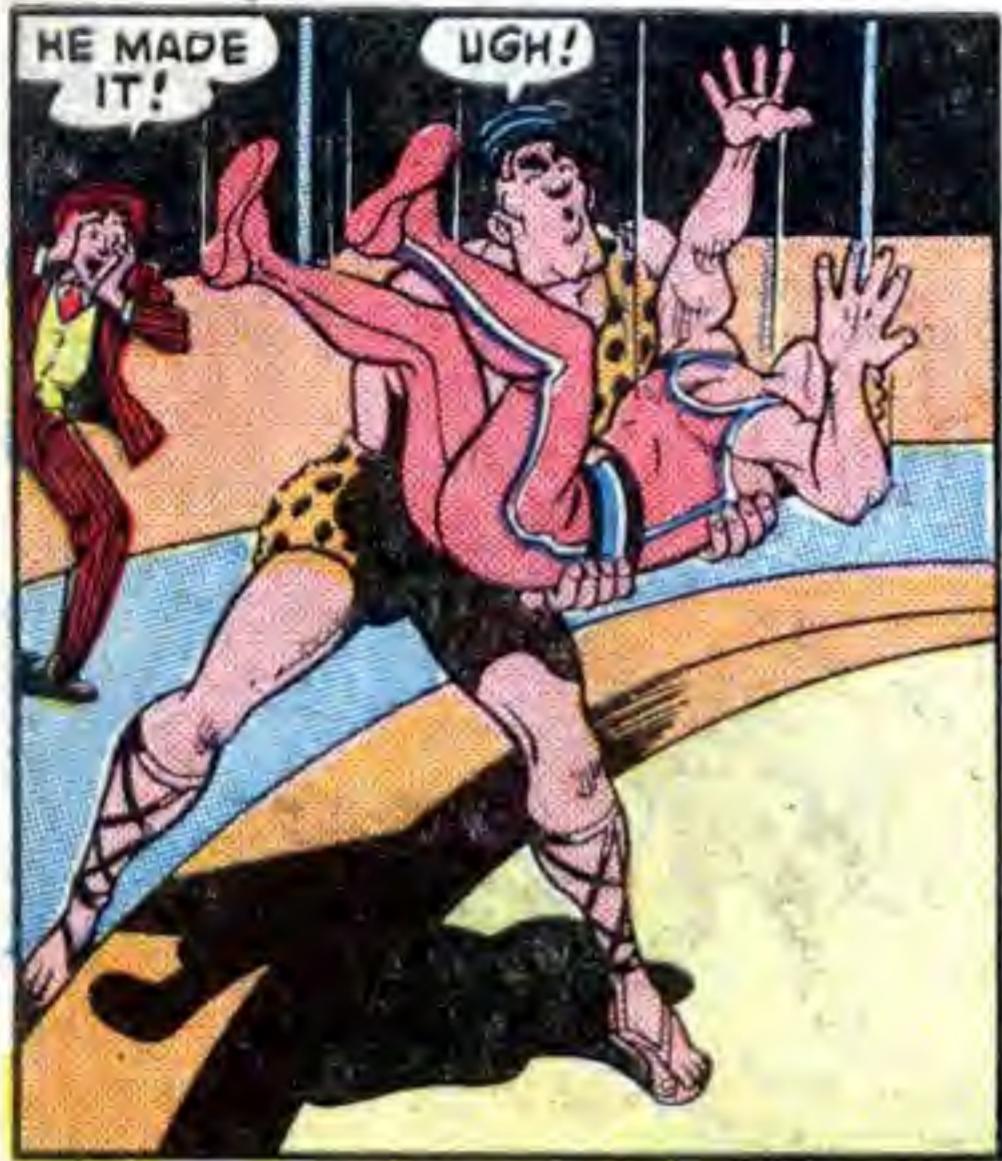
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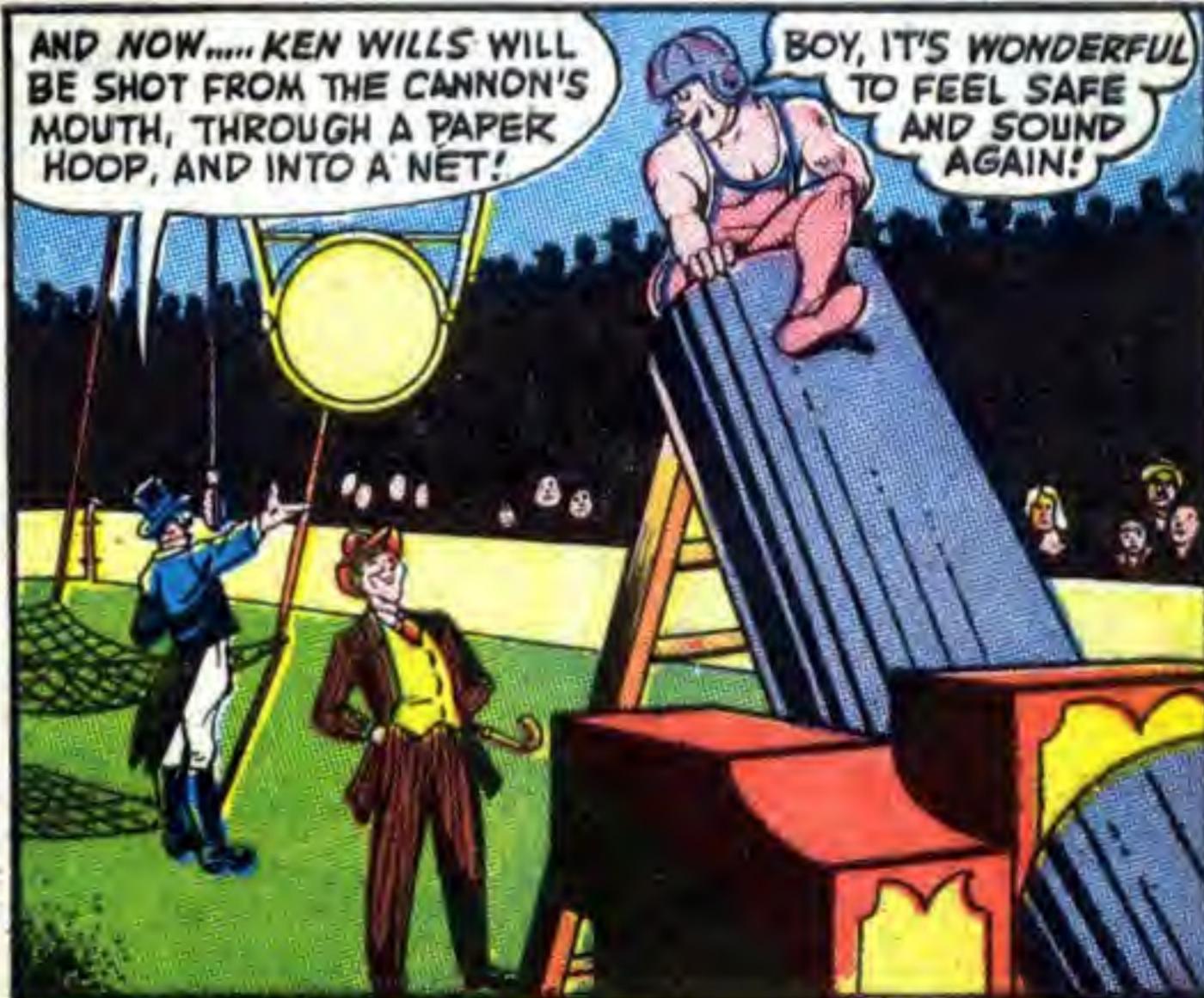
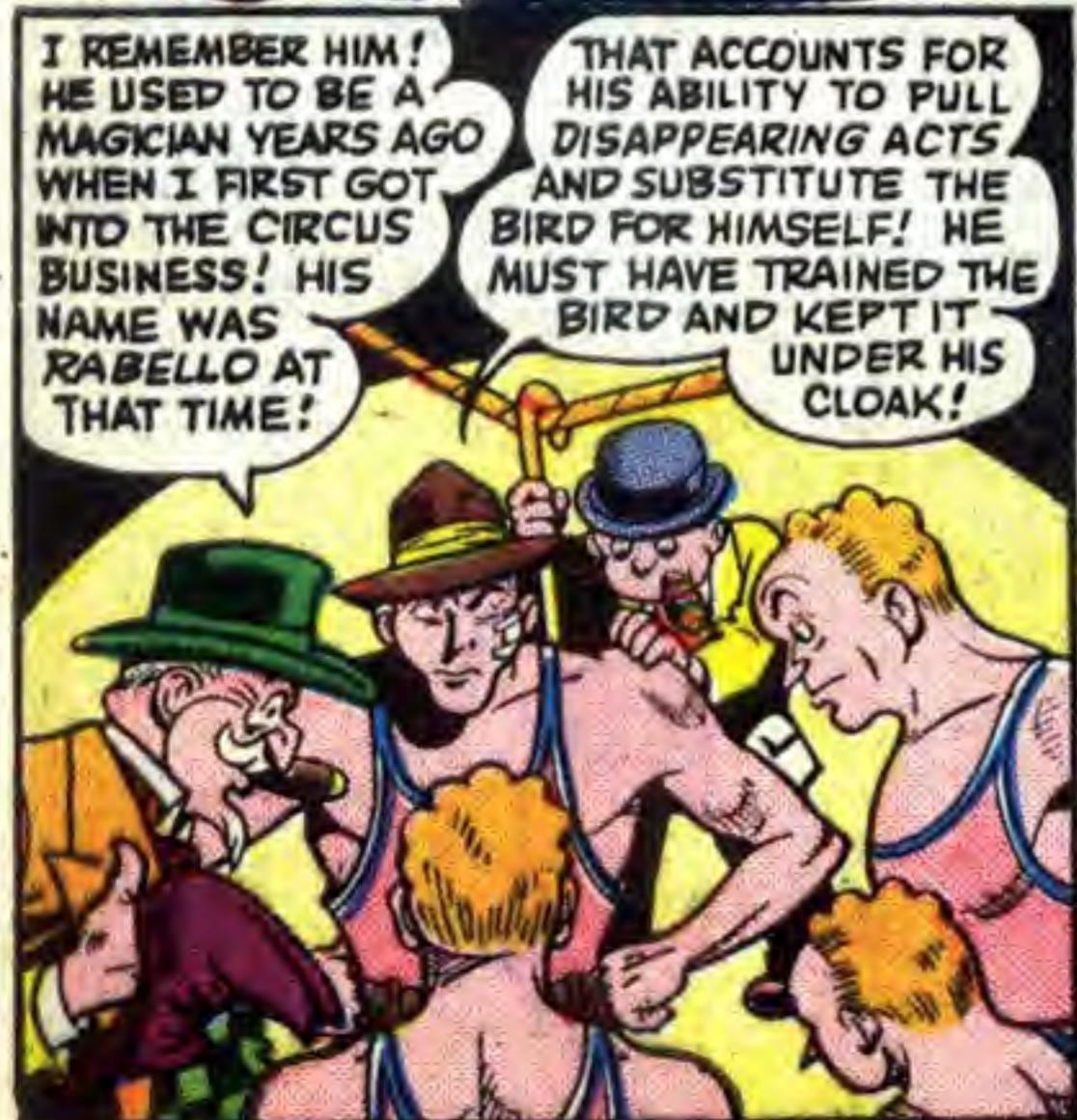
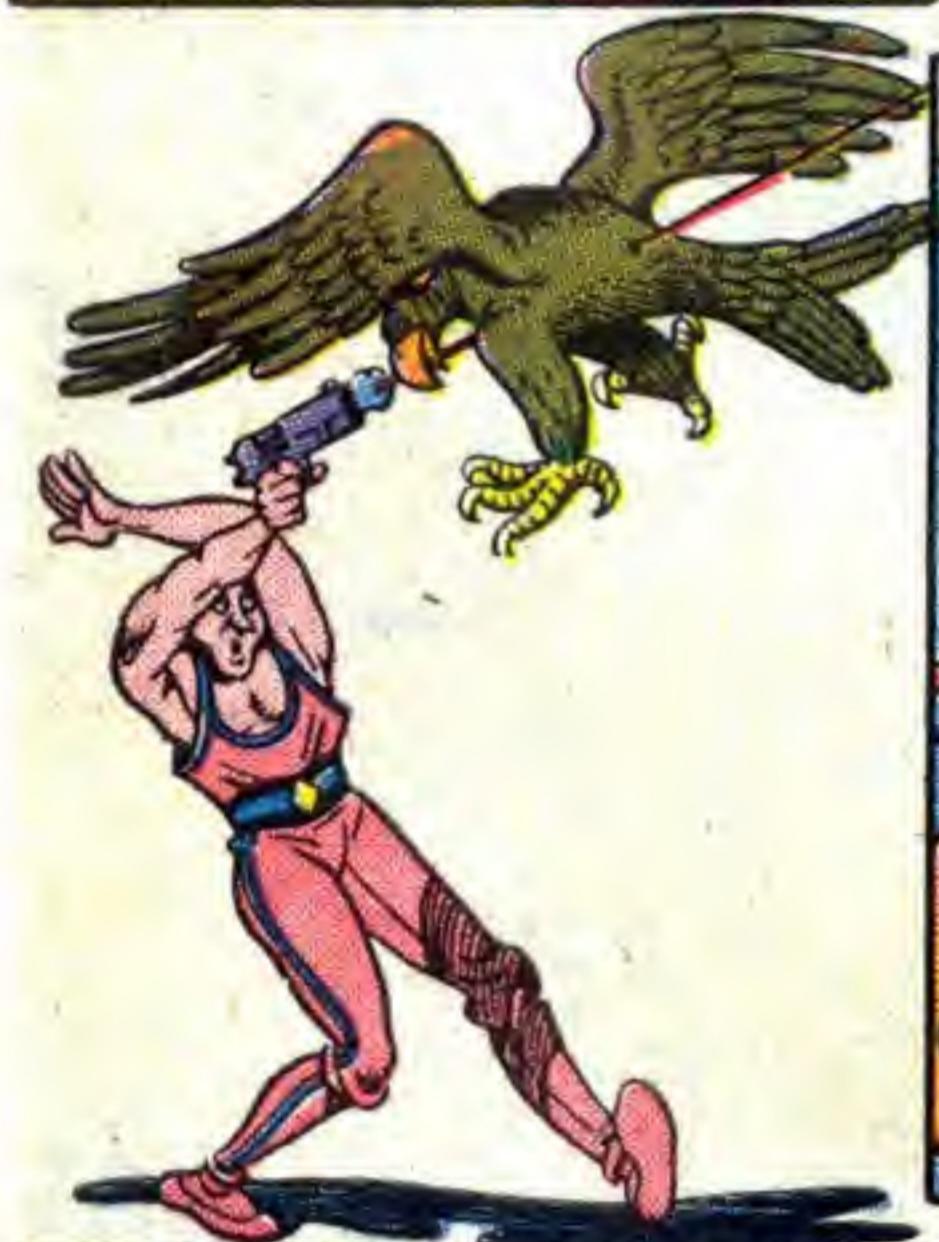


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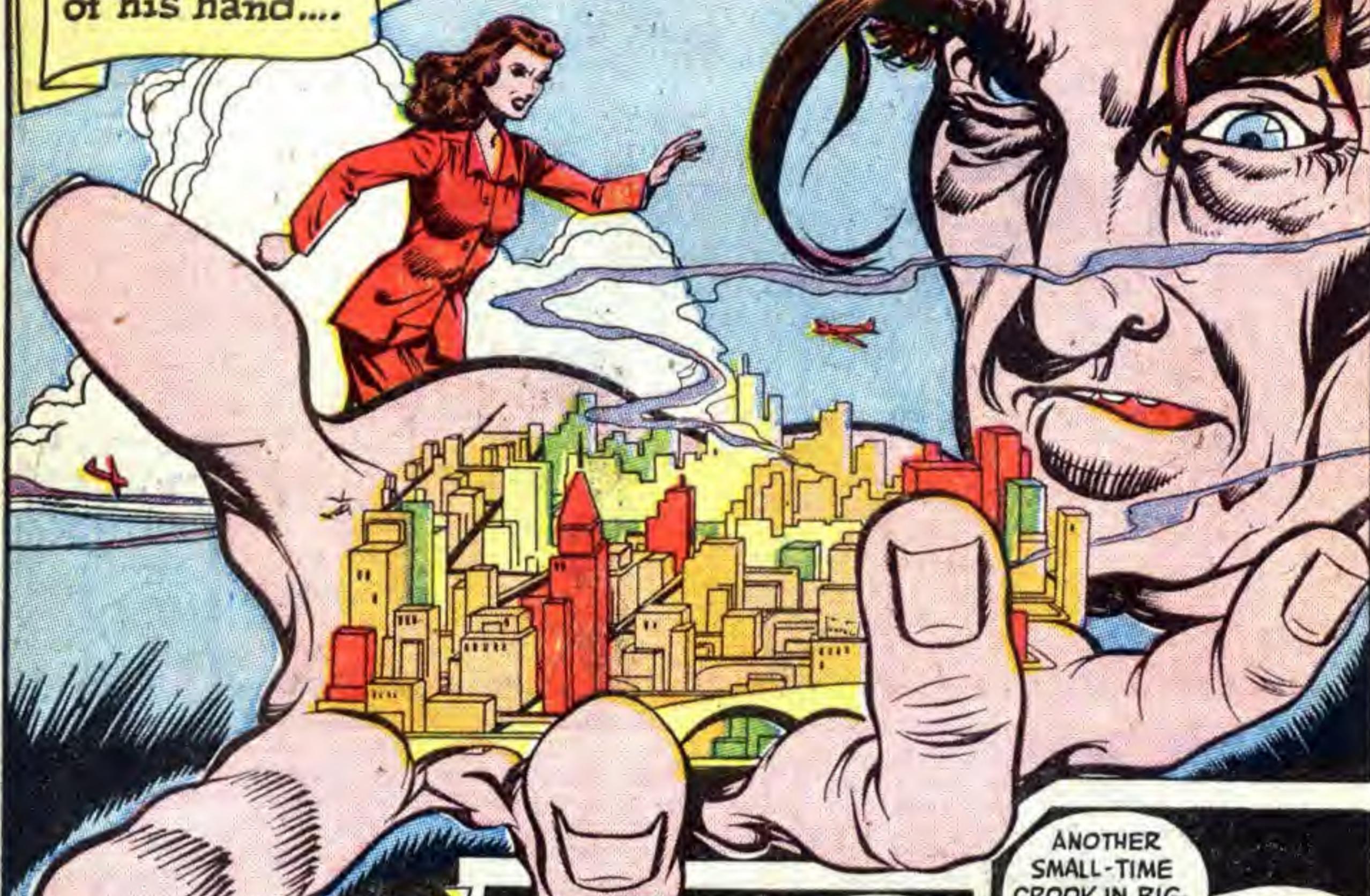


NATIONAL COMICS



Sally O'NEIL

ONCE a man boasted that he held a great city in the palm of his hand....



At police headquarters...

YOU GOT THE MAN WHO ROBBED THE JEWELLER AND KILLED THE GUARD? **THAT SEEDY SAP?** WHY, HE COULDN'T PLAN SUCH A JOB!

MAYBE HE DIDN'T PLAN IT, BUT HE **DID IT!**

ANOTHER SMALL-TIME CROOK IN BIG-TIME STUFF! WE'VE CAUGHT A DOZEN LIKE THAT!

BUT THEY KEEP QUIET AND SERVE THEIR TIME! THEY HAVE SOME **MASTER MIND** BACK OF THEM—AND THEY DON'T DARE NAME HIM!



NATIONAL COMICS

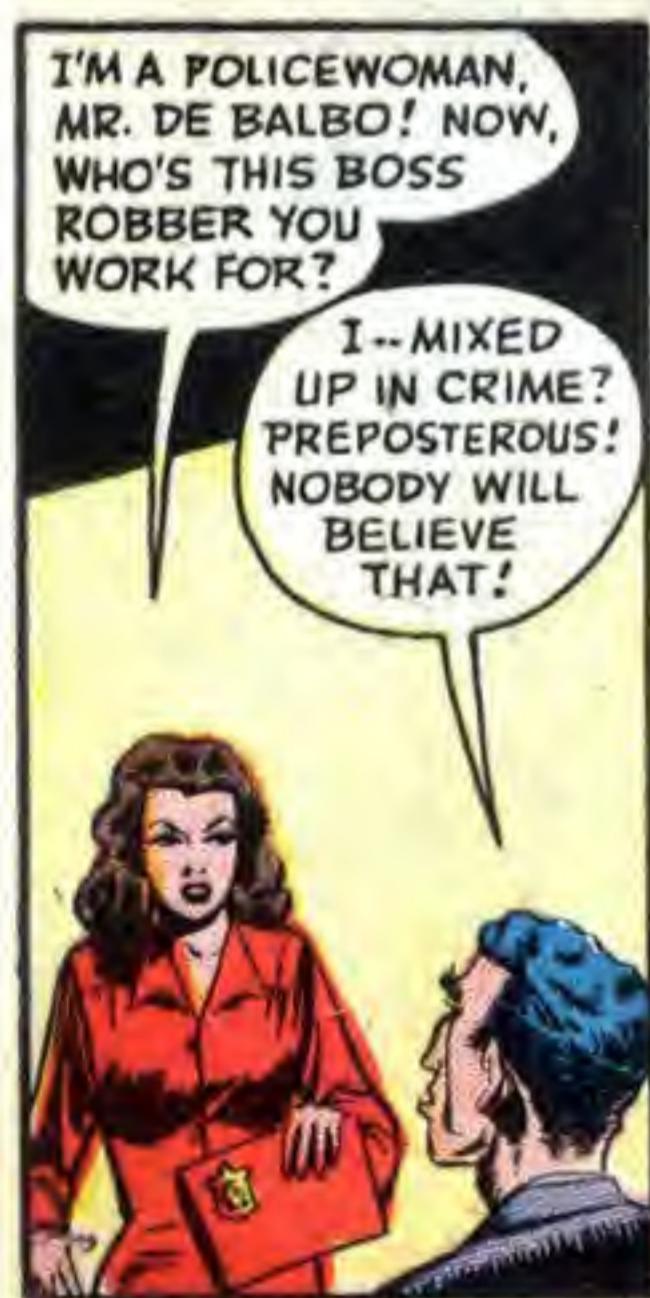




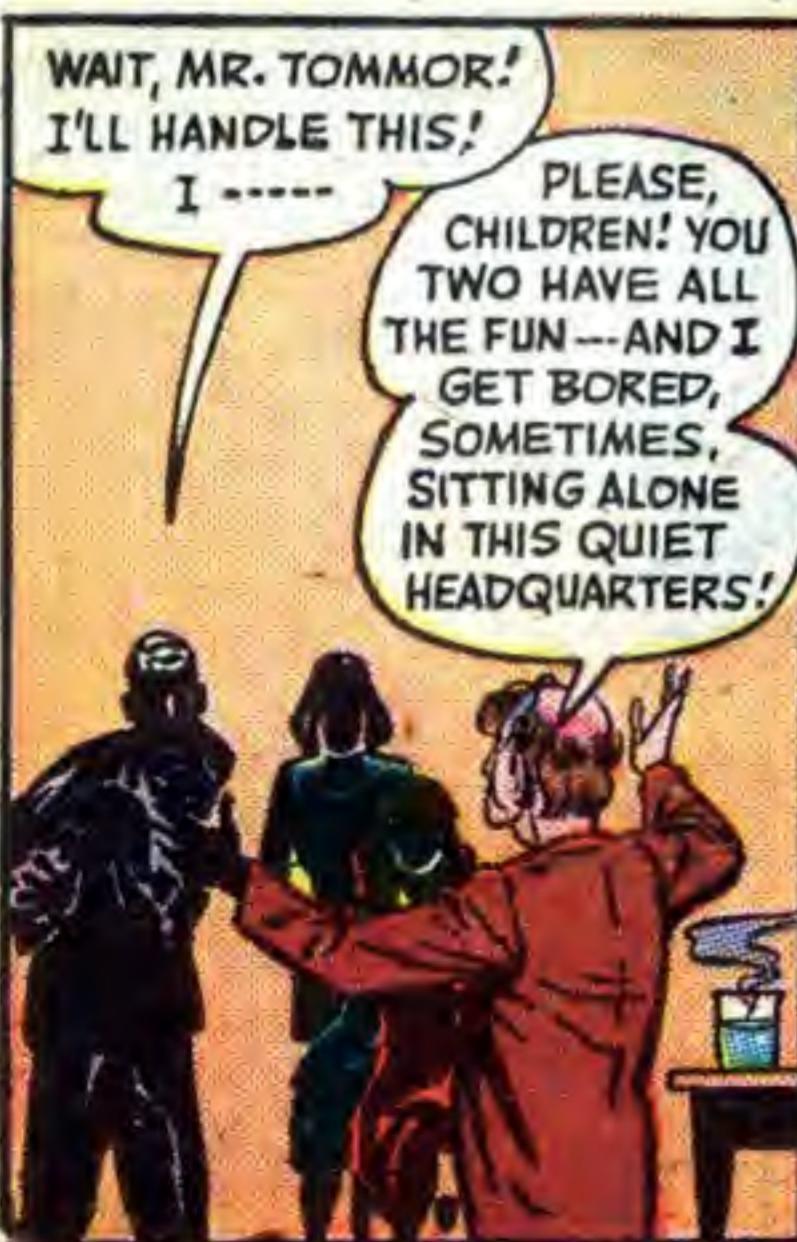
Several
hours
later...



NATIONAL COMICS







THIS ACID...VERY EFFECTIVE—
SHE'LL DIE, AND HER FACE WILL
BE UNRECOGNIZABLE
WHEN THEY FIND HER!

AREN'T
YOU
FORGETTING
SOMETHING,
TOMMOR?



YOU'LL BE BETRAYED
IF YOU KILL ME! THIS
LADY WAS THE ONE
WHO TIPPED ME OFF
YOU WERE HERE!

THAT'S
A LIE!



IT MIGHT BE THE
TRUTH! SHE CAME
DIRECT TO US! I
DIDN'T RAT ON THE
ORGANIZATION,
AND---

NO SHOTS!
WE AREN'T
SOUNDPROOFED,
YOU KNOW!



IF ANYBODY
TALKED, IT WAS
DE BALBO!

I DOUBT
IF IT WAS
EITHER OF
YOU!

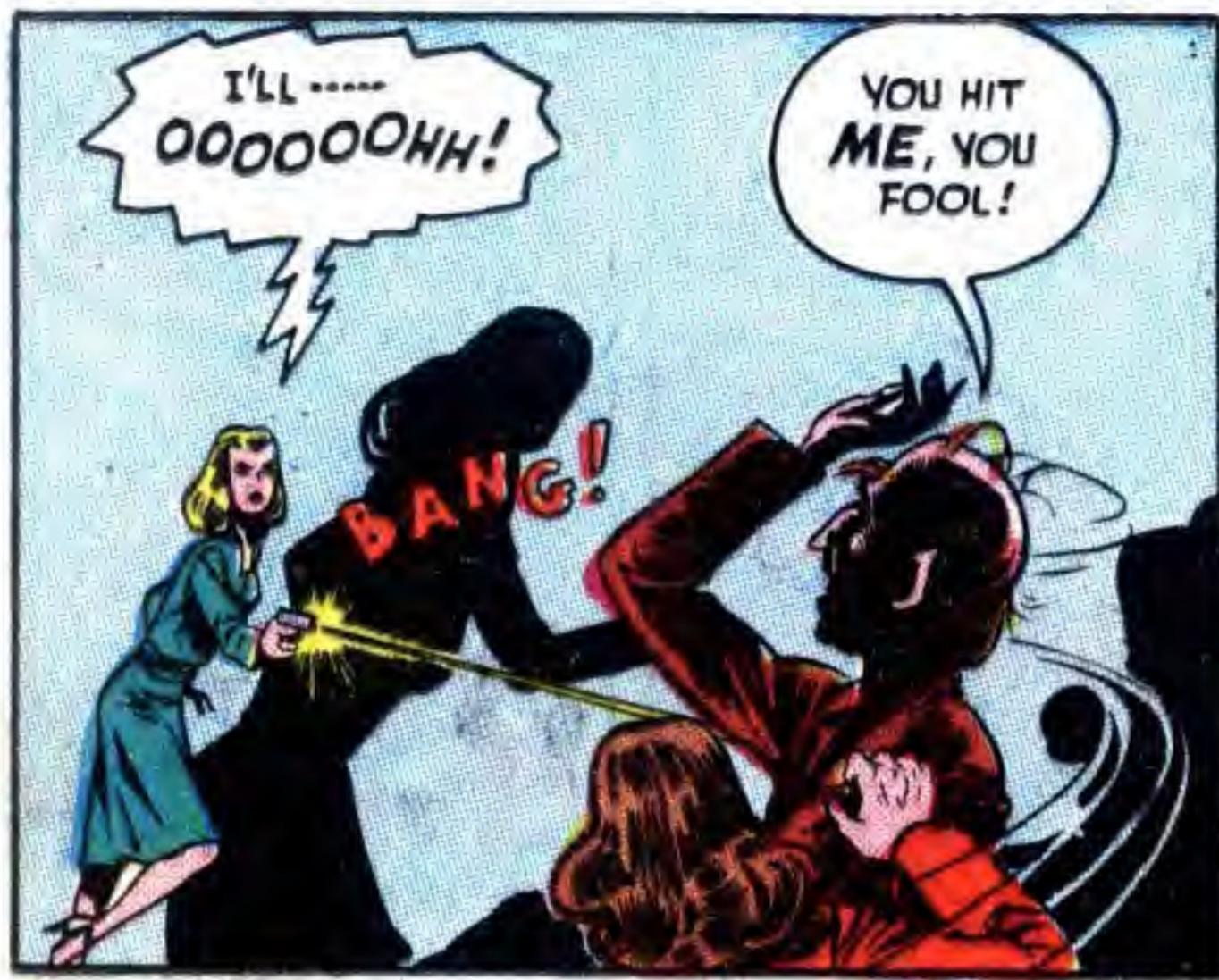


RIGHT, TOMMOR!
BUT THIS SQUABBLE
TOOK YOUR ATTENTION
OFF OF ME!



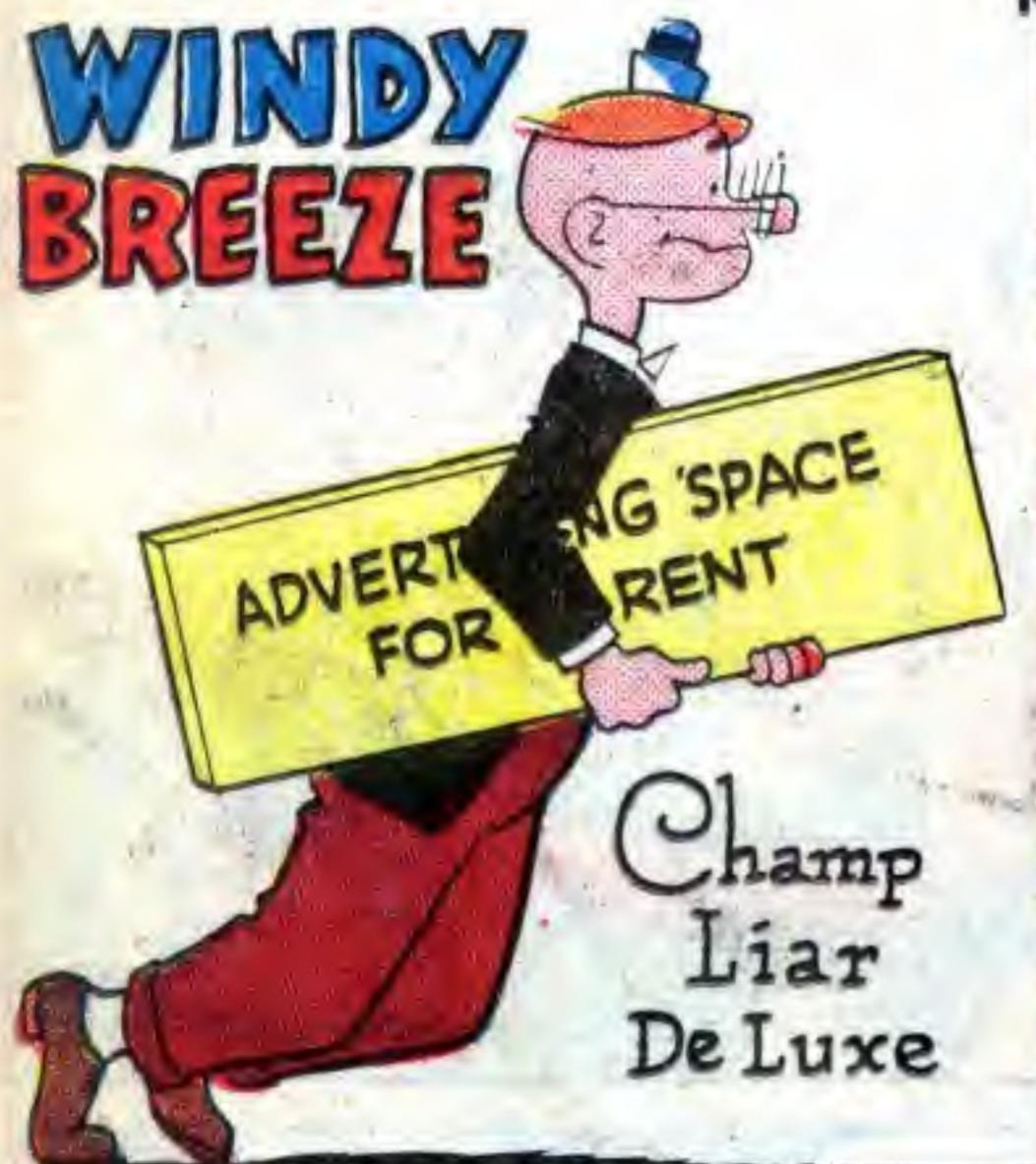
DE BALBO'S
FINISHED -- BY
THAT ACID! SHOOT
HER! NEVER MIND
WHO HEARS
YOU!





NATIONAL COMICS

WINDY BREEZE



BEING A CRACK HYPNOTIST, I WAS HIRED BY THE BURPSI COLA COMPANY TO ADVERTISE THEIR PRODUCT...



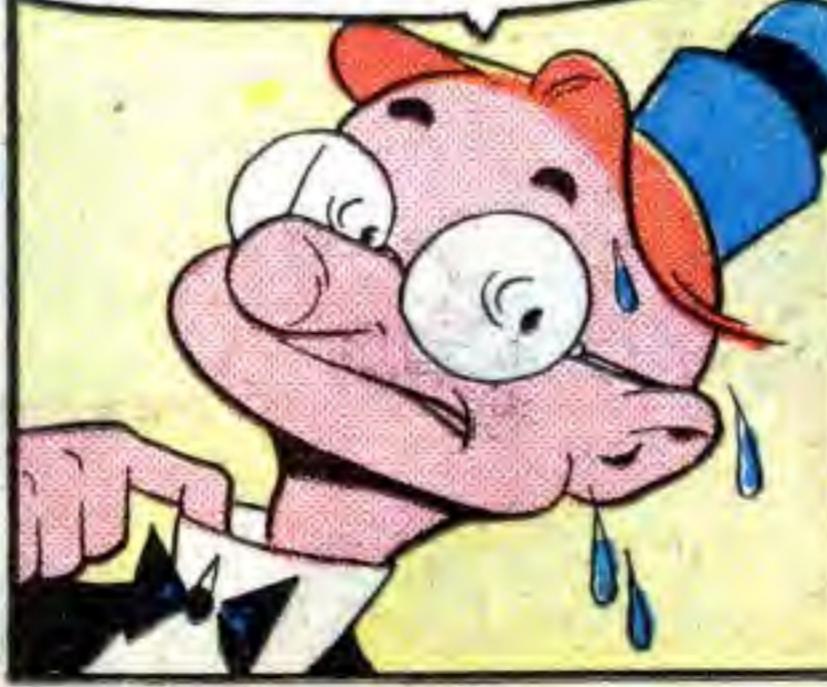
IN TWO WEEKS I HYPNOTIZED EVERYONE IN TOWN INTO BUYING BURPSI COLA!



YESSIR, I WAS THE YA ADVERTISE FOR ME? I'LL GIVE YA ALL THE LEMONADE YOU CAN DRINK!



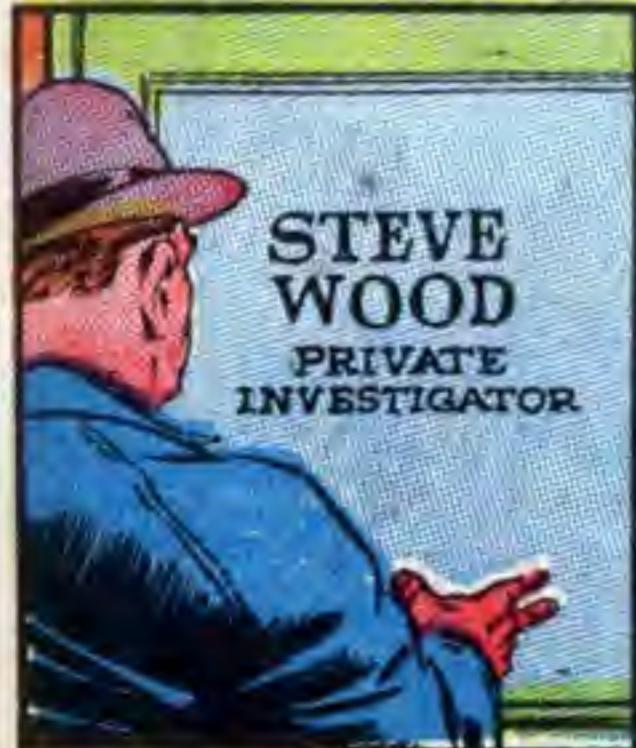
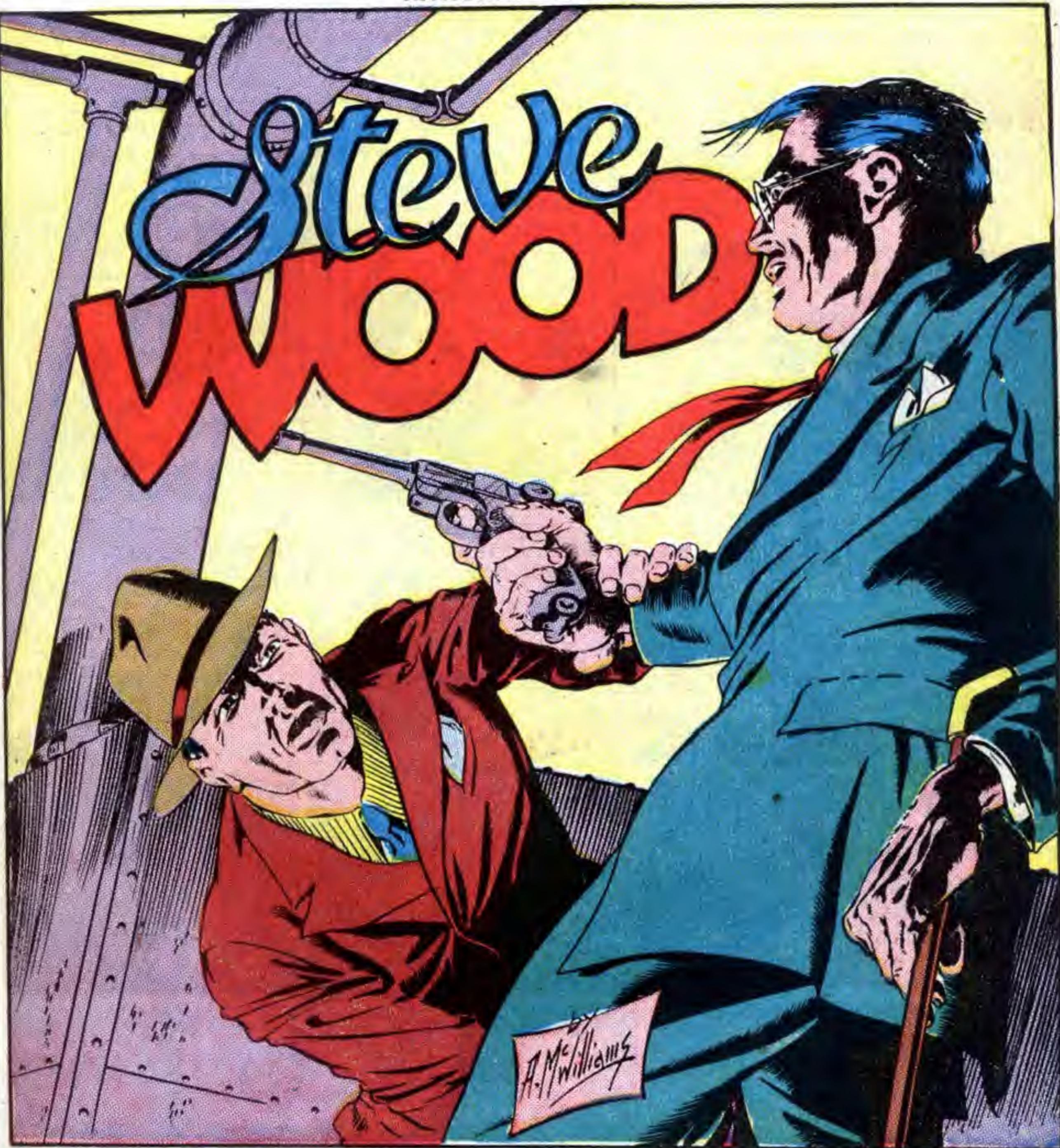
ER-UH--WELL, I'D BE GLAD TO, ONLY WHILE I WAS WORKING FOR BURPSI COLA, THEIR COMPETITOR HIRED ANOTHER HYPNOTIST AND WE BOTH BLEW OUT A FUSE TRYING TO GET EACH TO DRINK THE OTHER'S PRODUCT!



BUT I WILL TRY SOME LEMONADE, THANK YOU! THERE GOES MY BUSINESS --GONE WITH THE WIND-BAG!



Steve Wood



MR. JOHNSON TO
SEE YOU, STEVE!



I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU,
MR. JOHNSON...WHAT'S ON
YOUR MIND SO EARLY IN THE
MORNING?



NATIONAL COMICS

I'LL NOT BEAT AROUND THE BUSH, MR. WOOD.... I WISH TO RETAIN YOUR SERVICES AS A DETECTIVE TO RECOVER THE PUNJAB DIAMOND WHICH I'VE OWNED FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS....

THE PUNJAB DIAMOND! WHY THAT'S FAMOUS THE WORLD OVER!!

EXACTLY, AND DURING THE WAR IT HAS BEEN HIDDEN IN ITALY, SAFE FROM THE NAZIS... I LET IT REMAIN THERE RATHER THAN TAKE THE RISK OF MOVING IT TO THIS COUNTRY....

...AND NOW IT'S BEEN PINCHED?

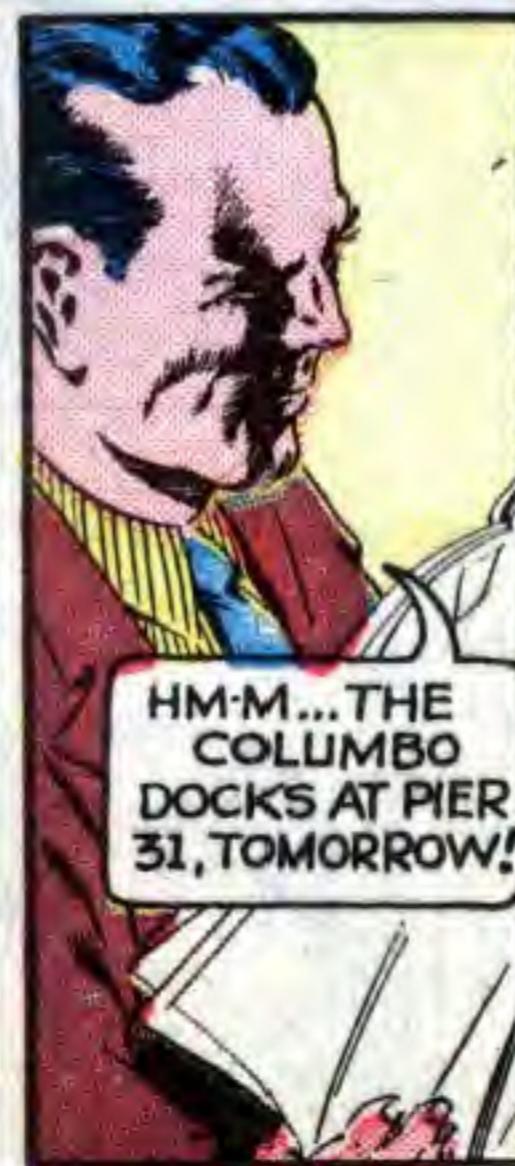
YES, BUT MY ASSOCIATES IN EUROPE HAVE WIRED ME THAT THOSE WHO STOLE IT ARE KNOWN TO BE ABOARD THE FREIGHTER, COLUMBO, BOUND FOR THE STATES.



...AND AFTER MR. JOHNSON LEAVES...

LET ME SEE YOUR PAPER, OH, FAITHFUL SECRETARY!

MAYBE THIS JOB WILL PAY UP MY BACK SALARY... I KEEP TELLING MYSELF!



GUESS I'LL TROT DOWN AND LOOK THAT AREA OVER... OH, OH!! TROUBLE ENTERS!

WELL, WELL, LOOKS AS IF THERE'S A JOB COMING UP... SHERLOCK'S WEARING HIS FLYSWATTER!



NATIONAL COMICS

I CAN ALWAYS TELL WHEN NEWS IS SCARCE... THE TRIBUNAL'S FAMOUS SOB-SISTER, PEGGY ALLEN, VISITS US IN HOPES OF PICKING UP A STORY !!

OH, NO! I COME TO SEE ONLY YOU, STEVE !!



WELL, THERE HE GOES.... WE'RE OFF AGAIN!

WHERE IS MY FAVORITE SHERLOCK HEADING FOR, SALLY?



PEG, IF I WERE TO AH, RECEIVE THAT EXTRA PAIR OF NYLONS WHICH I KNOW YOU HAVE...WHY I'D SAY KEEP AN EYE ON PIER 31 TOMORROW !

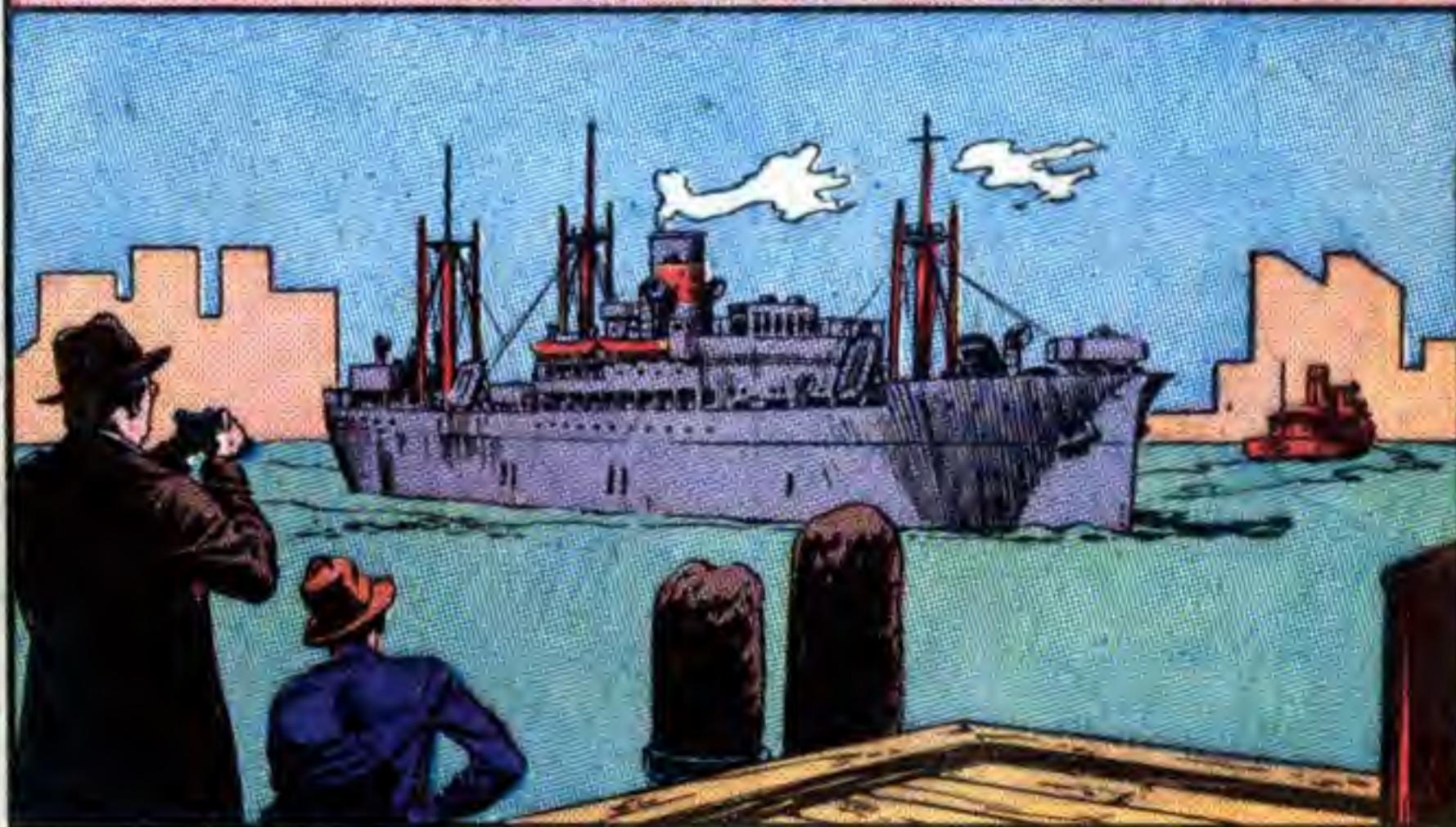


OKAY, YOU WIN! I BUY CLOTHES...AND YOU WEAR 'EM...WHY DO I COME UP HERE ?

GOOD-BYE, DEARIE!



EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, THE FREIGHTER COLUMBO MOVES SLOWLY UP THE HARBOR, WATCHED BY STEVE AND A FEW OTHERS



FINDING THE PUNJAB DIAMOND ABOARD THAT TUB WILL BE LIKE FINDING A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK!



AS STEVE APPROACHES THE GANGPLANK, TWO OTHER FIGURES GO UP IT AHEAD OF HIM--



I DON'T KNOW THE FIRST ONE...BUT THAT SECOND BIRD IS LOUIE SCANELLI, WHO NEVER DOES A THING UNLESS THERE'S CASH INVOLVED! I THINK I'LL TRAIL FRIEND LOUIE!



THEY DISAPPEARED INTO THE STATEROOM SECTION AMIDSHIPS... SO I'LL SEE IF I CAN LOCATE THE ROOM WITHOUT BEING NOTICED!!



GUESS THE CREW ISN'T IN ON THE PLOT OR I'D HAVE BEEN STOPPED BY NOW!



AH-HA... THE OLD WOOD HUNTING INSTINCT ISN'T DEAD YET! THERE'S THE PLUMP LAD WITH THE GLASSES ENTERING THAT STATEROOM !!



WELL, HERE GOES WOOD !!



DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE A DEAL WITH ME, LOUIE!! YOU KNOW WHAT I WANT... SO HAND IT OVER!

AFTER GETTING THE DIAMOND THIS FAR ? YOU'RE CRAZY!

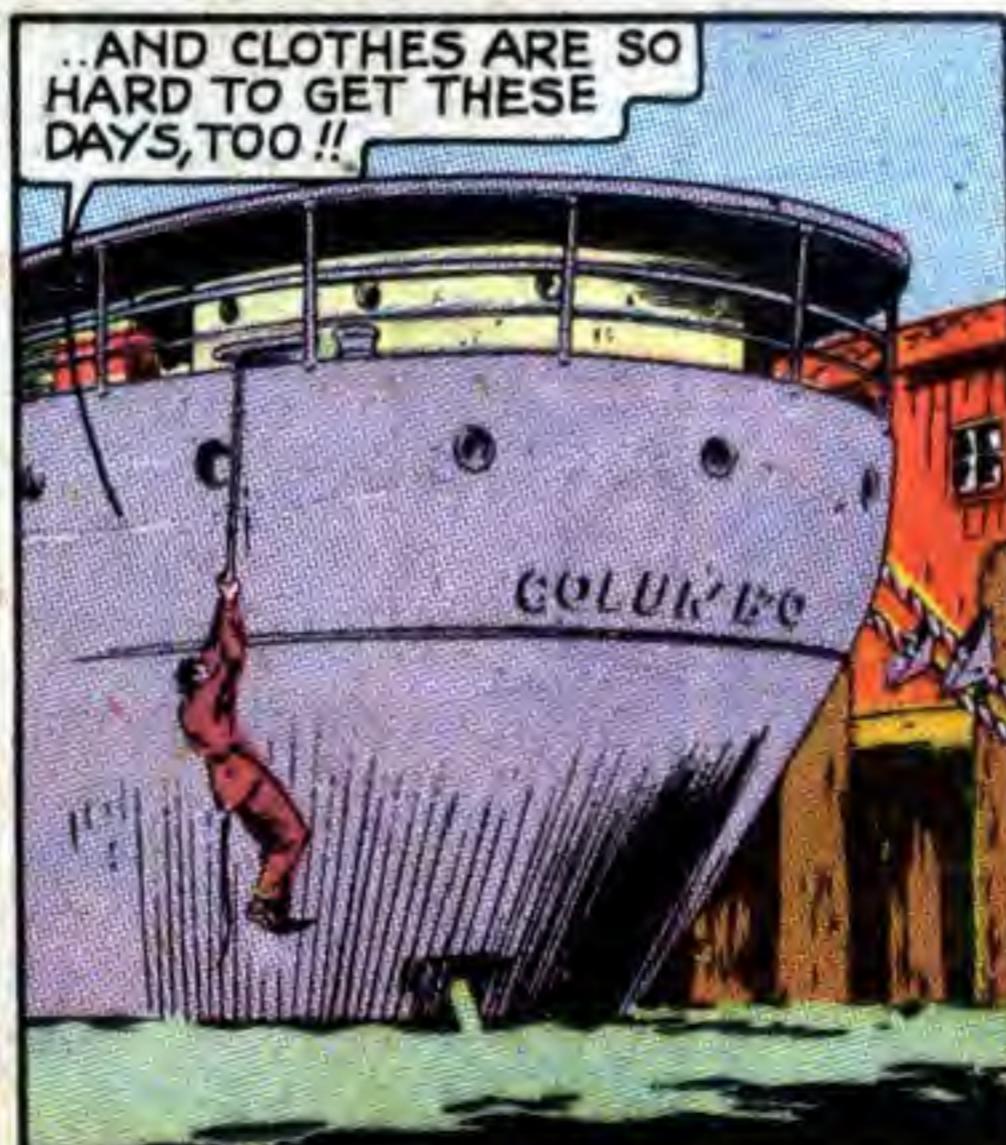


A GUY NAMED JOHNSON WANTS HIS DIAMOND BACK, BOYS... AND I'M NOT PLAYING !!



...AND NEITHER ARE WE!! TAKE 'IM, JERRY!! HE DOESN'T DARE SHOOT!!





NATIONAL COMICS

STEVE TAKES A CAB STRAIGHT TO JOHNSON'S APARTMENT....

WOOD....YOU HAVE IT?

RIGHT, BUT FIRST SHOW ME YOUR MONEY, JOHNSON!



HERE'S THE CASH...AH! THAT'S THE STONE, MY DIAMOND!!

THANKS! NOW I'M GOING TO GET INTO SOME DRY CLOTHES!



MEANWHILE, AT PIER 31, CUSTOMS AGENTS AND POLICE MAKE AN INTERESTING HAUL ...

CUSTOMS MEN FOUND 'EM ABOARD..THEY APPARENTLY HAD A FIGHT AND THEY KEEP YELLING SOME GUY NAMED JOHNSON HAS DOUBLE-CROSSED THEM

IS INSPECTOR FLANAGAN TAKING THEM IN FOR ROUTINE QUESTIONING?



THAT'S RIGHT, MISS PEG, AND, BY THE WAY, HOW DID YOU KNOW THERE WOULD BE A STORY HERE FOR YOUR PAPER, HUH?

OH, I T, UH, WAS JUST MY WOMANLY INTUITION... I GUESS!



AT HEADQUARTERS

I..I'LL TELL YOU JOHNSON'S ADDRESS! WE WERE GOING TO SPLIT, BUT HE DOUBLE-CROSSED US...WANTED THE WHOLE THING FOR HIMSELF!!



OH, OH... POLICE CARS PULLING UP IN FRONT OF JOHNSON'S APARTMENT BUILDING...AND THERE'S PEG IN HER CAR!! WONDER IF THEY ARE AFTER ME?



WELL, JOHNSON...LOOKS LIKE WE'RE JUST IN TIME! NOT GOING OUT OF TOWN, WERE YOU...?

WHY...WHY...HOW DID.....?



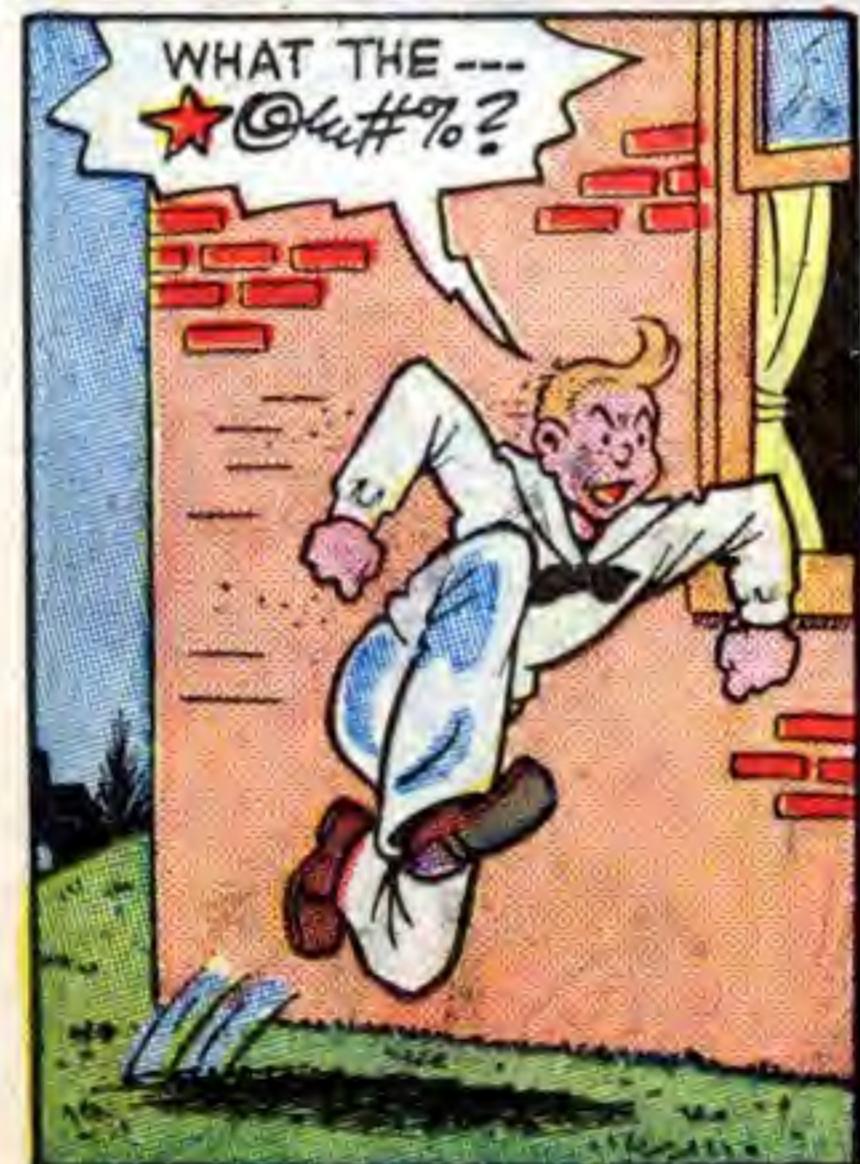
PEG, WHAT'S THE STORY?

OH, HELLO, MY PET SLEUTH! HOW'S THIS FOR A STORY... THE INSPECTOR HAS BEEN TRYING TO CATCH JOHNSON FOR YEARS. HE'S A NOTORIOUS JEWEL THIEF. THE PUNJAB STONE WAS STOLEN FROM A PARIS EXHIBIT WHEN WAR BROKE OUT... HE'S BEEN TRYING TO GET IT HERE EVER SINCE!



MY GOSH!! ...AND YOU, STEVE MY LAMB, HAD BETTER THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS YOU'RE NOT IN JAIL WITH HIM! WHAT A STORY I CAN WRITE, AND IF I MENTION YOUR PART IN IT, INSPECTOR FLANAGAN WILL SKIN YOU ALIVE....!!





TINKER TOM

by AL STAHL

NOW,
TINKER, I
DON'T WANT YOU
TO RUIN OUR PICNIC
WITH YOUR CRAZY
INVENTIONS!

AW, MAMA ...
PAPA SAYS
HE'S A
GENIUS!

TUT-TUT,
M'DEAR!

BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE
AHEAD!

**FREE
PICNIC
GROUNDS!**

The three
Tinkers go
on a picnic --
Mama Tinker,
Papa Tinker,
And Little
Junior Tinker!

TINKER SPECIAL

321

WELL, I JUST HAVE A
FEELING THAT SOMETHING
WILL HAPPEN TO
SPOIL OUR OUTING!
IT USUALLY DOES!

DON'T
SAY THAT,
MA!

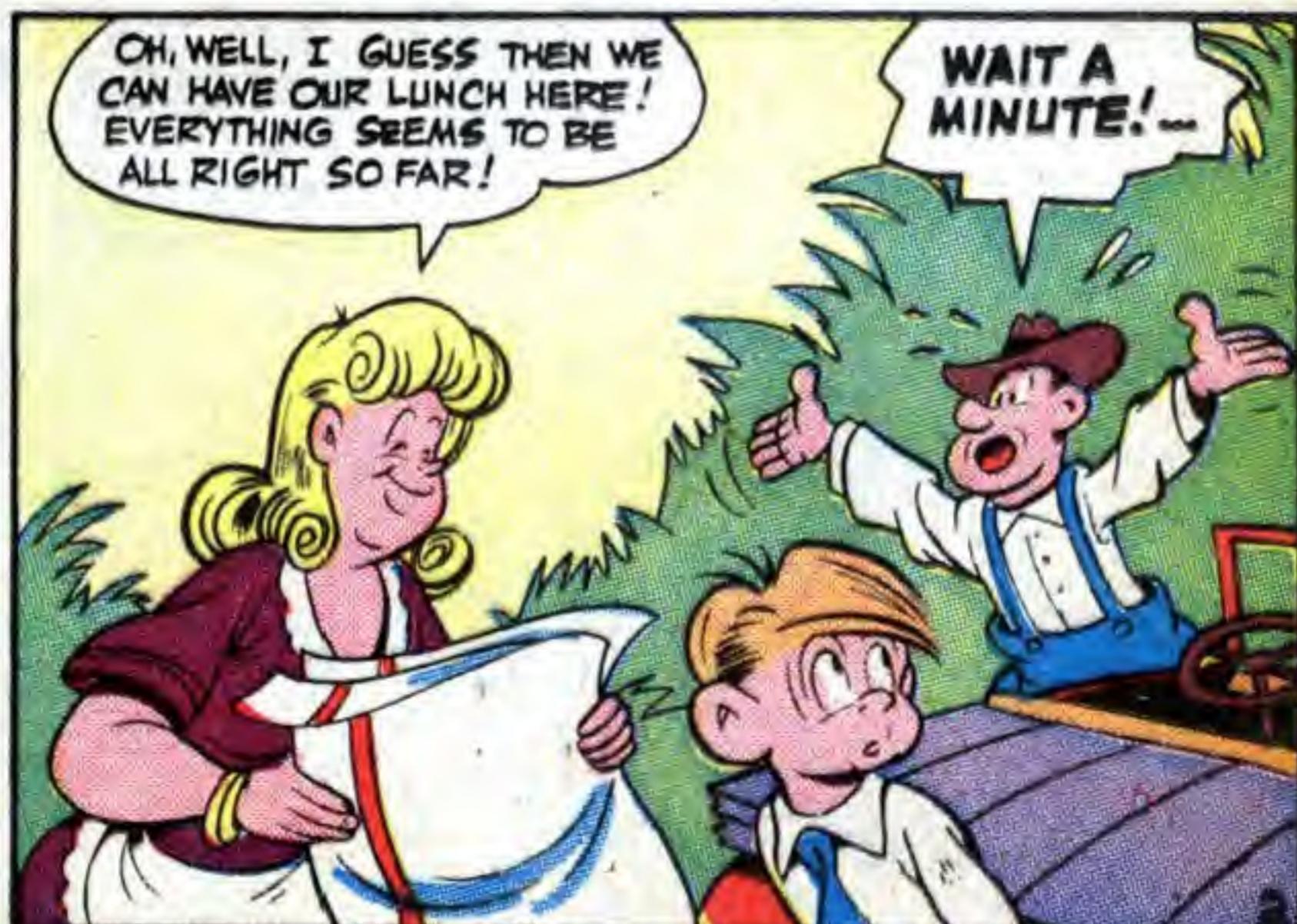
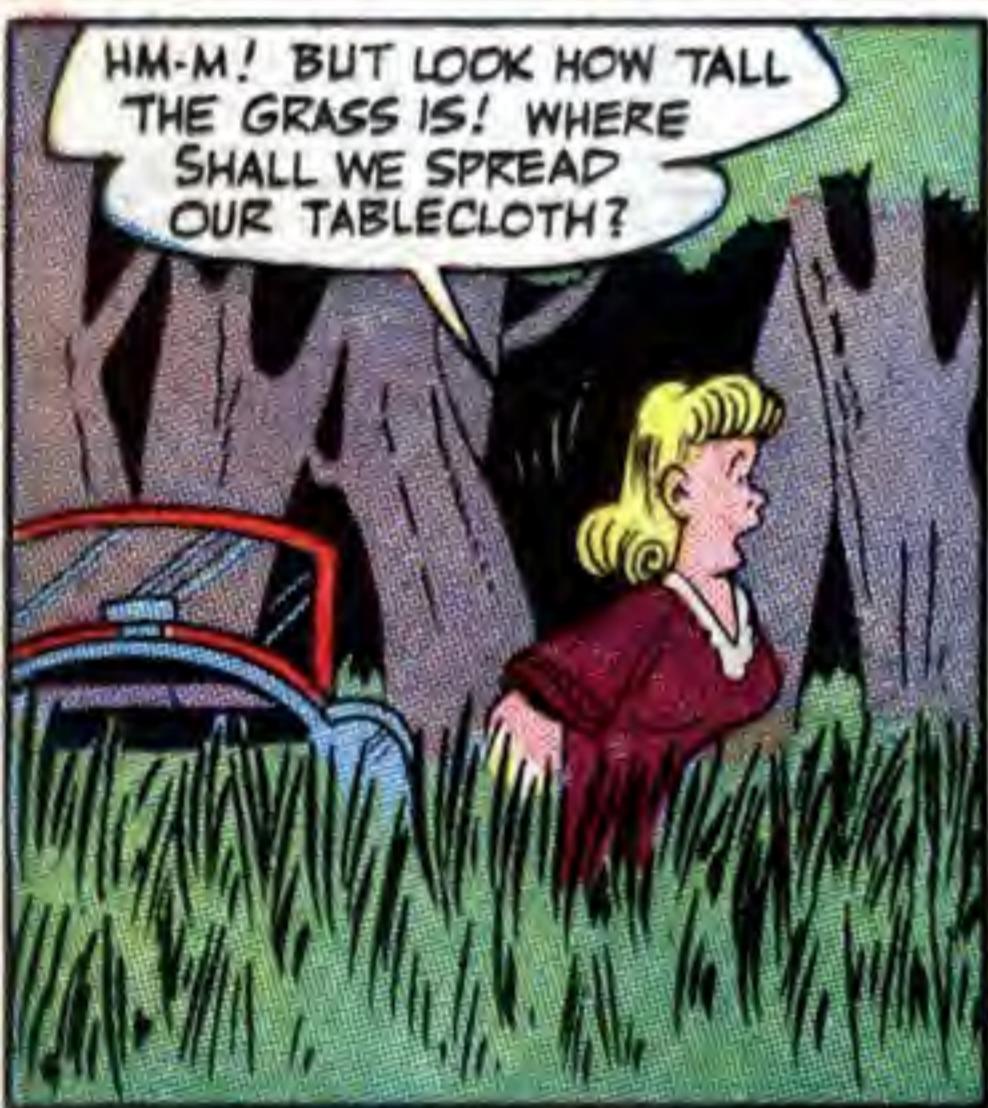
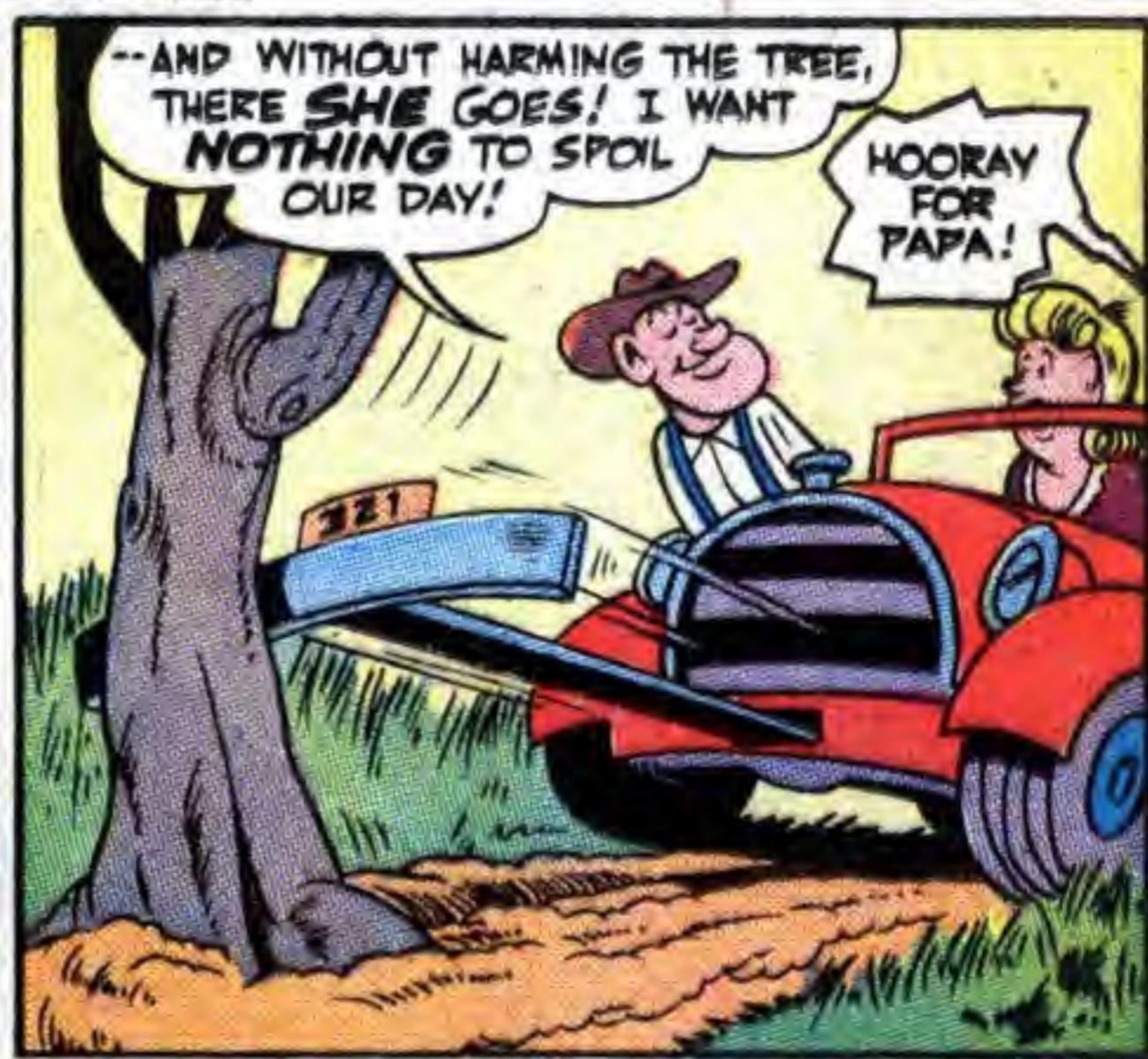
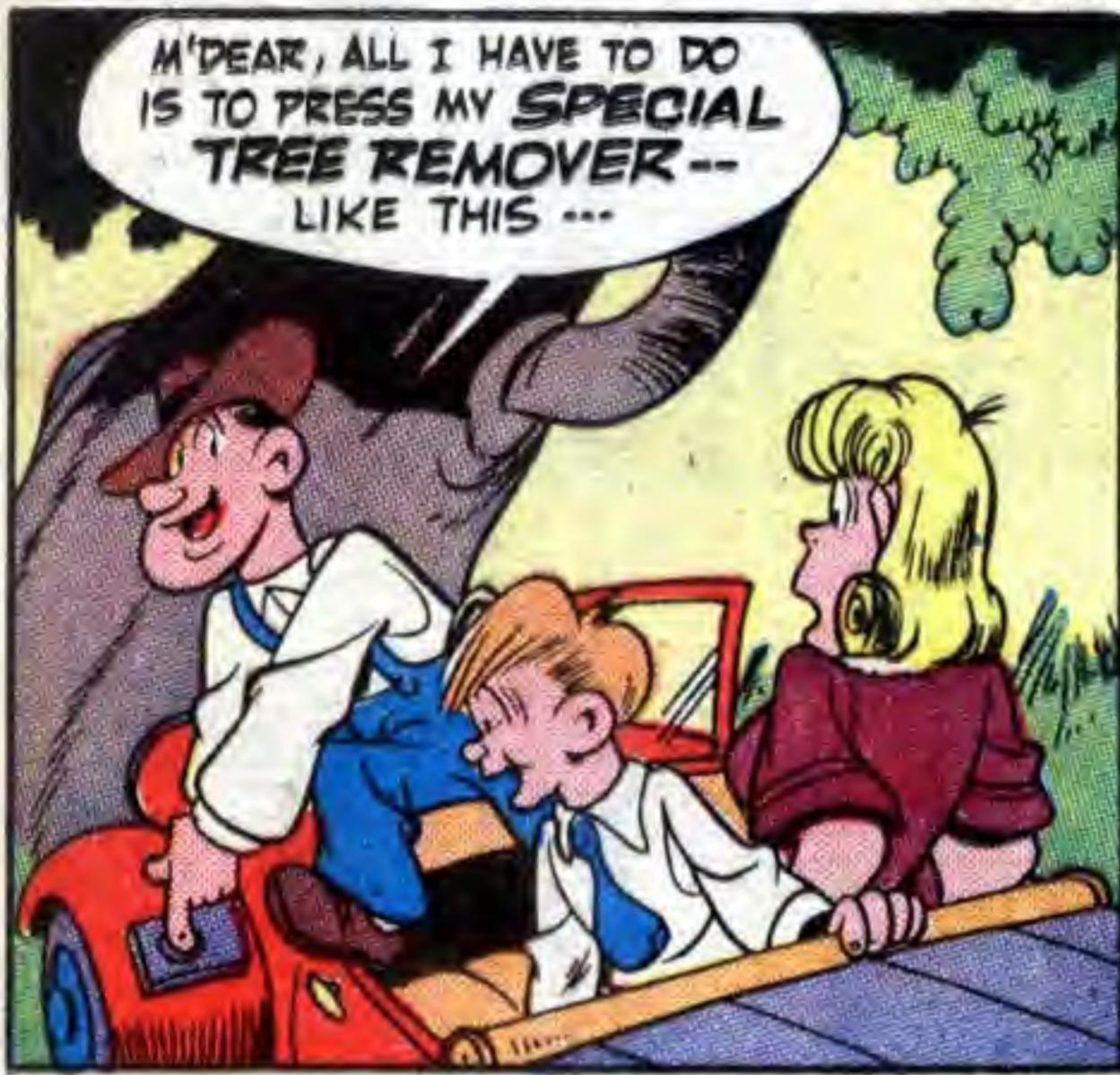
Picking an ideal spot is usually a family
matter - so, after a few miles ...

AH, WHAT
A BEAUTIFUL
VIEW!

LET'S
STOP HERE,
PAPA!

NO, TINKER,
THE **TREE**
IS IN THE
WAY!

NATIONAL COMICS



A PORTABLE FOLDING
T-TABLE? DO YOU
THINK WE CAN
TRUST IT, JUNIOR?

GEE,
MAMA, I
GUESS SO!

ABSOLUTELY!
WE WILL EAT IN
STYLE!

NOW YOU
CAN SPREAD
YOUR CLOTH!

So far,
so good ...
Nary a
mishap!

So, the
**Tinker
Family**
Sits down
to lunch...

GEE, MAMA, BELIEVE
IT OR NOT, THE
PICNIC'S A
SUCCESS!

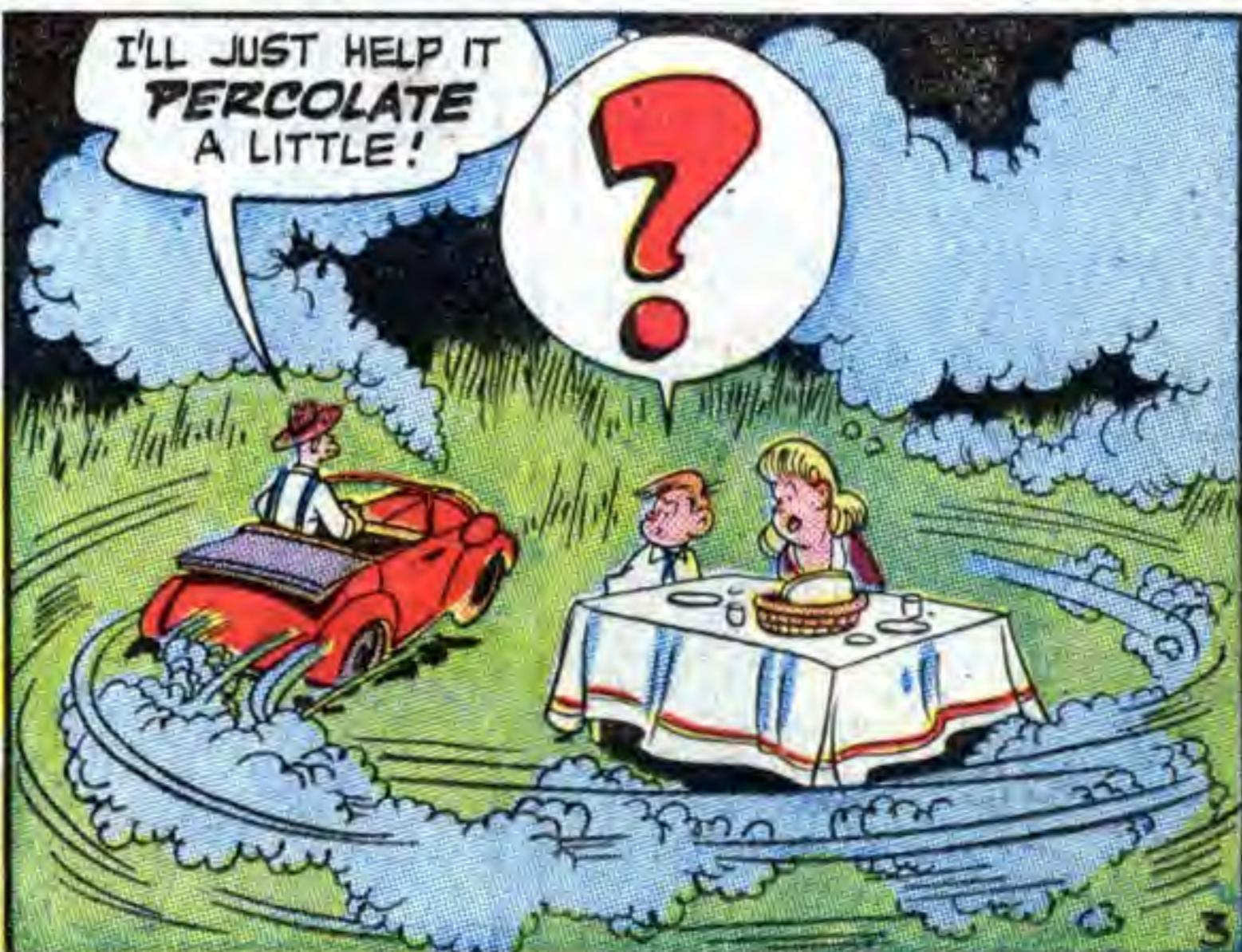
YEAH! BUT
LOOK! WHAT'S
THAT?

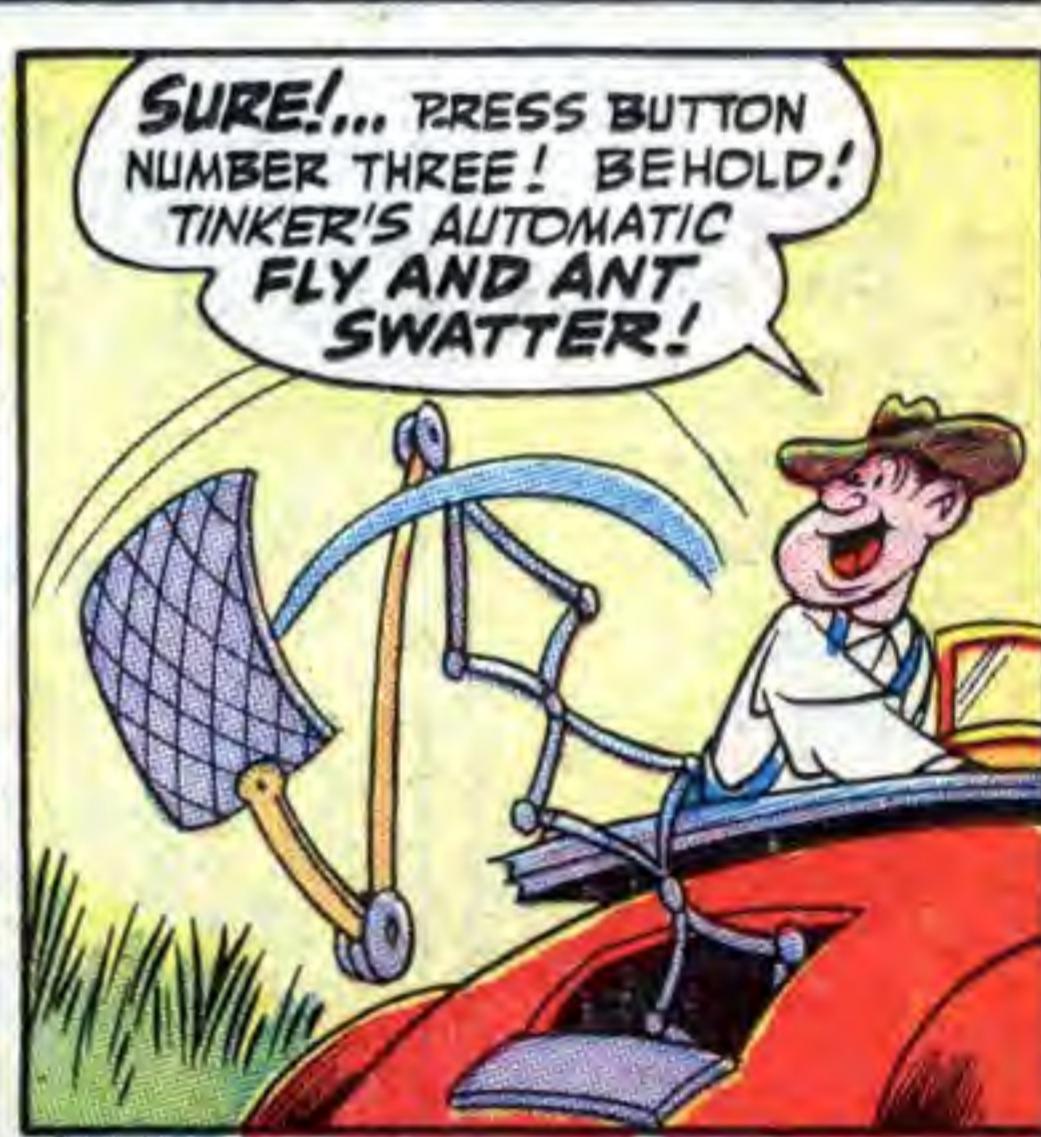
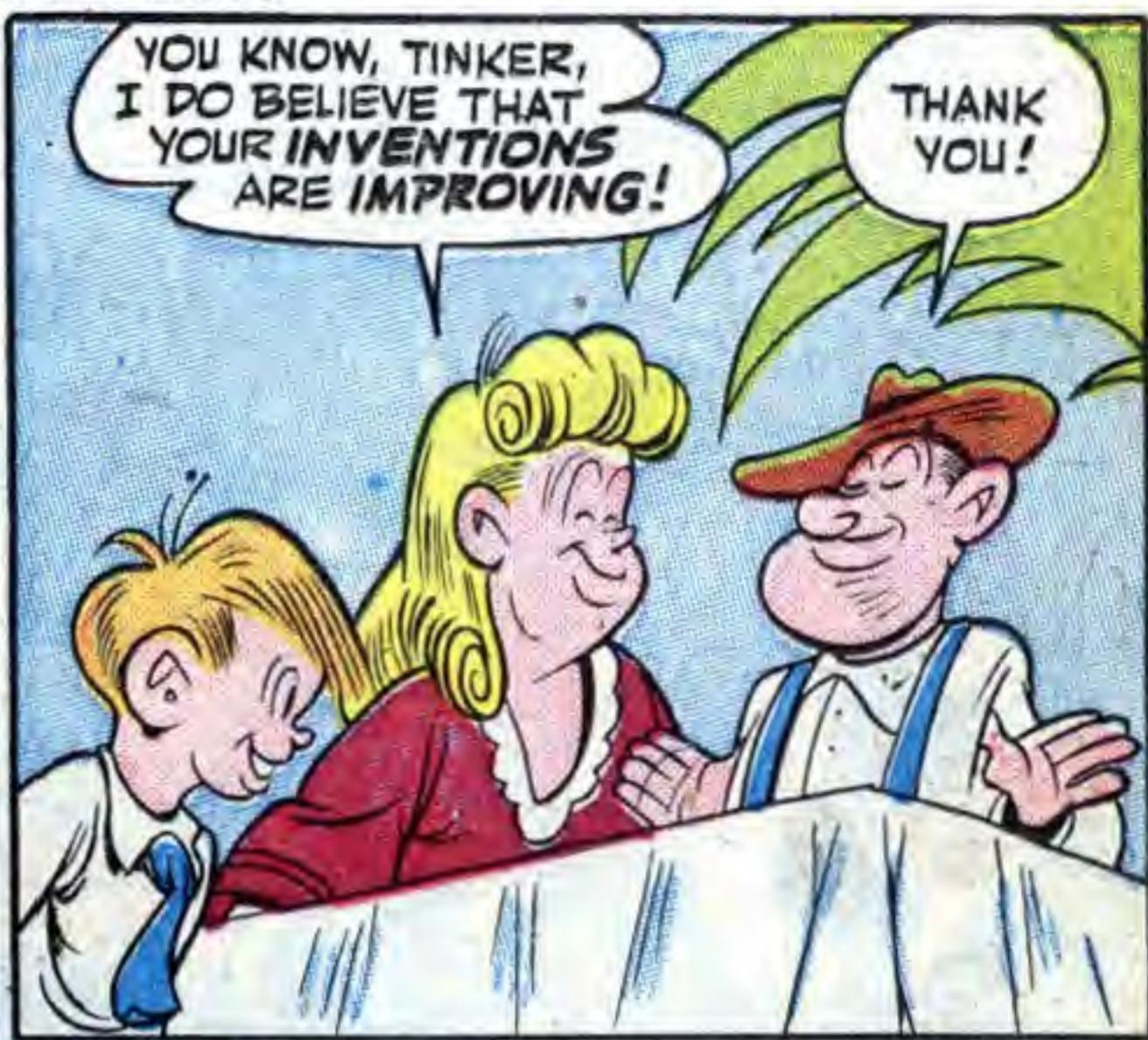
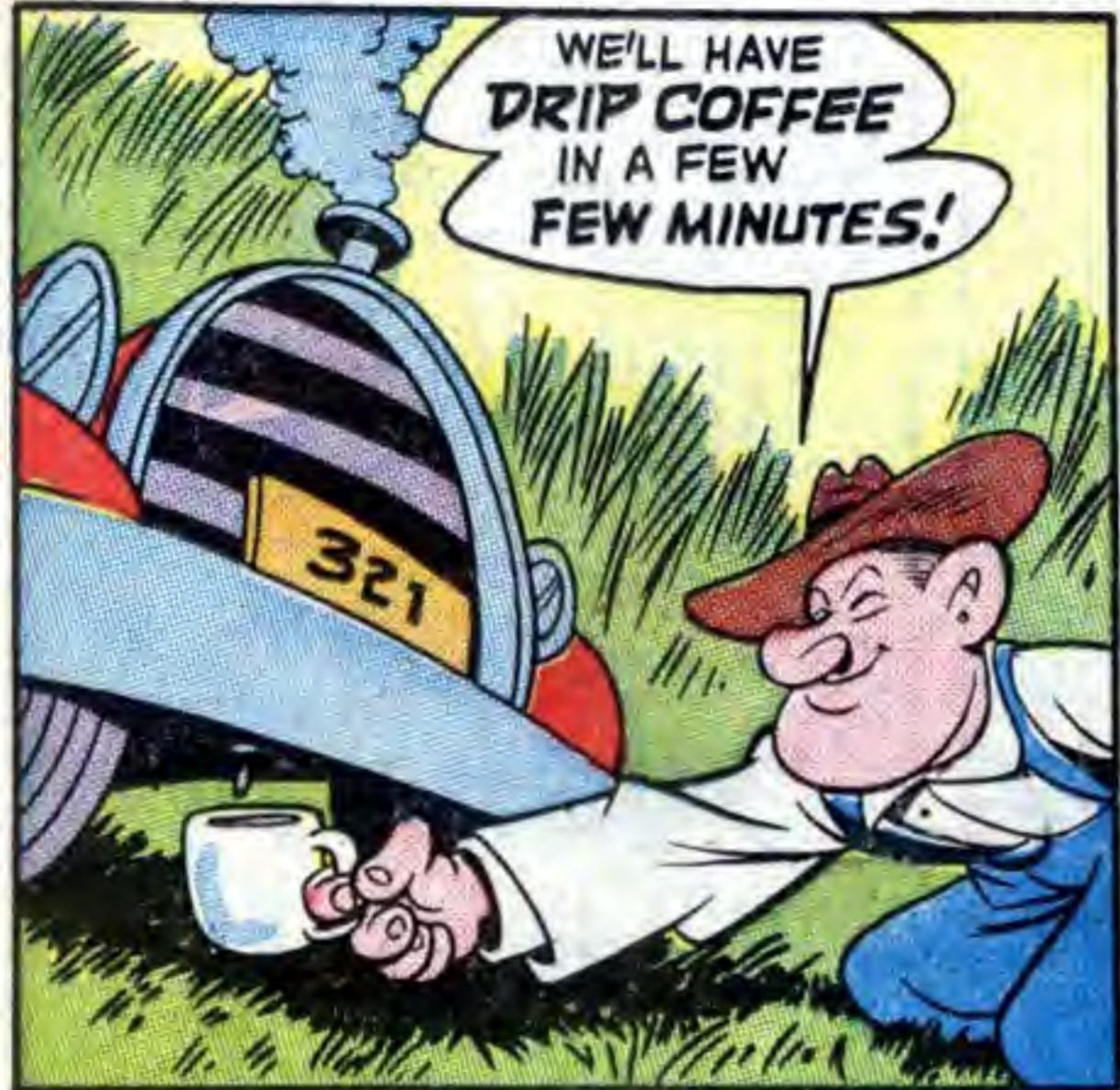
NOTHING AT ALL, DEAR!
THE WATER IS READY!

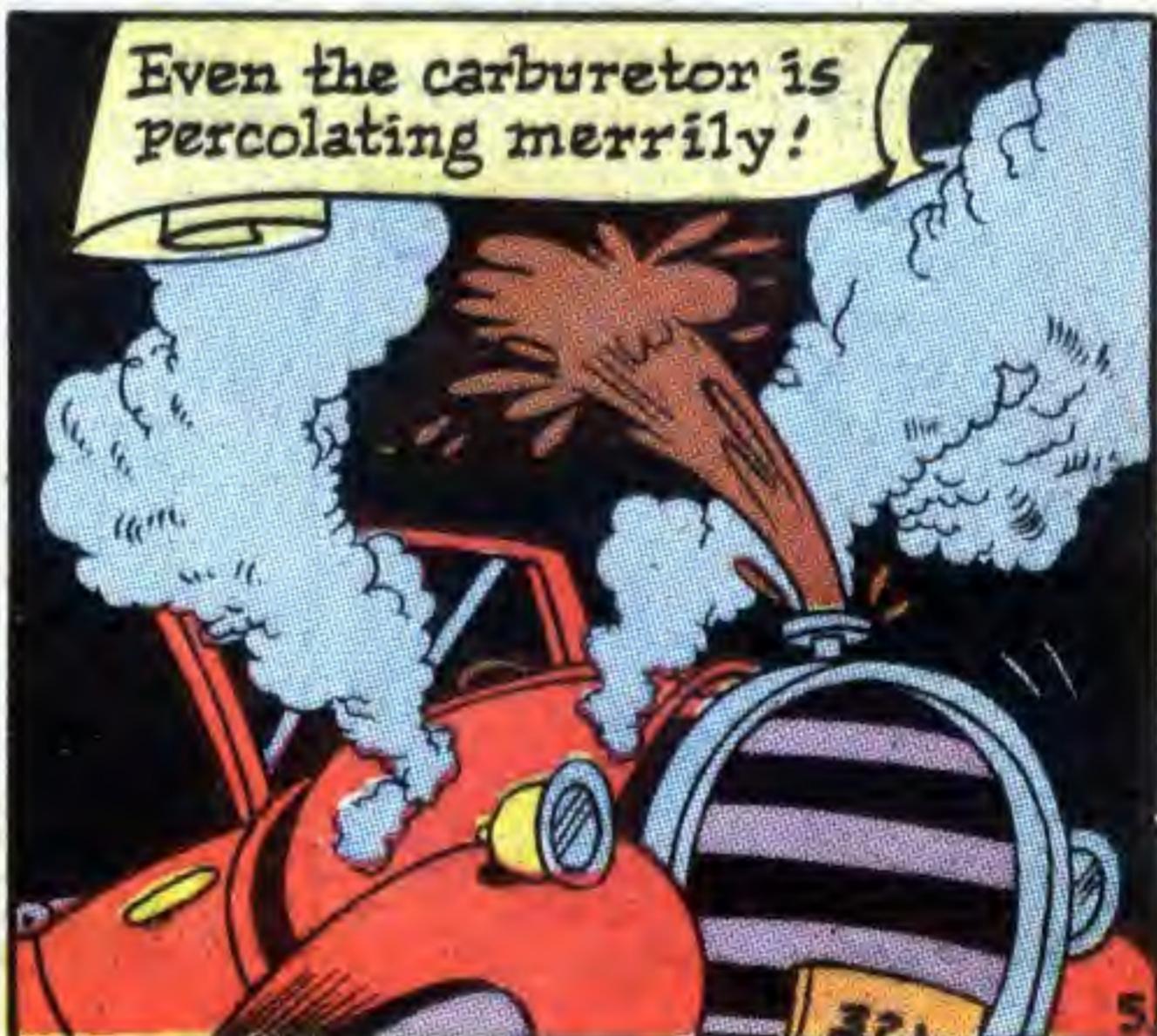
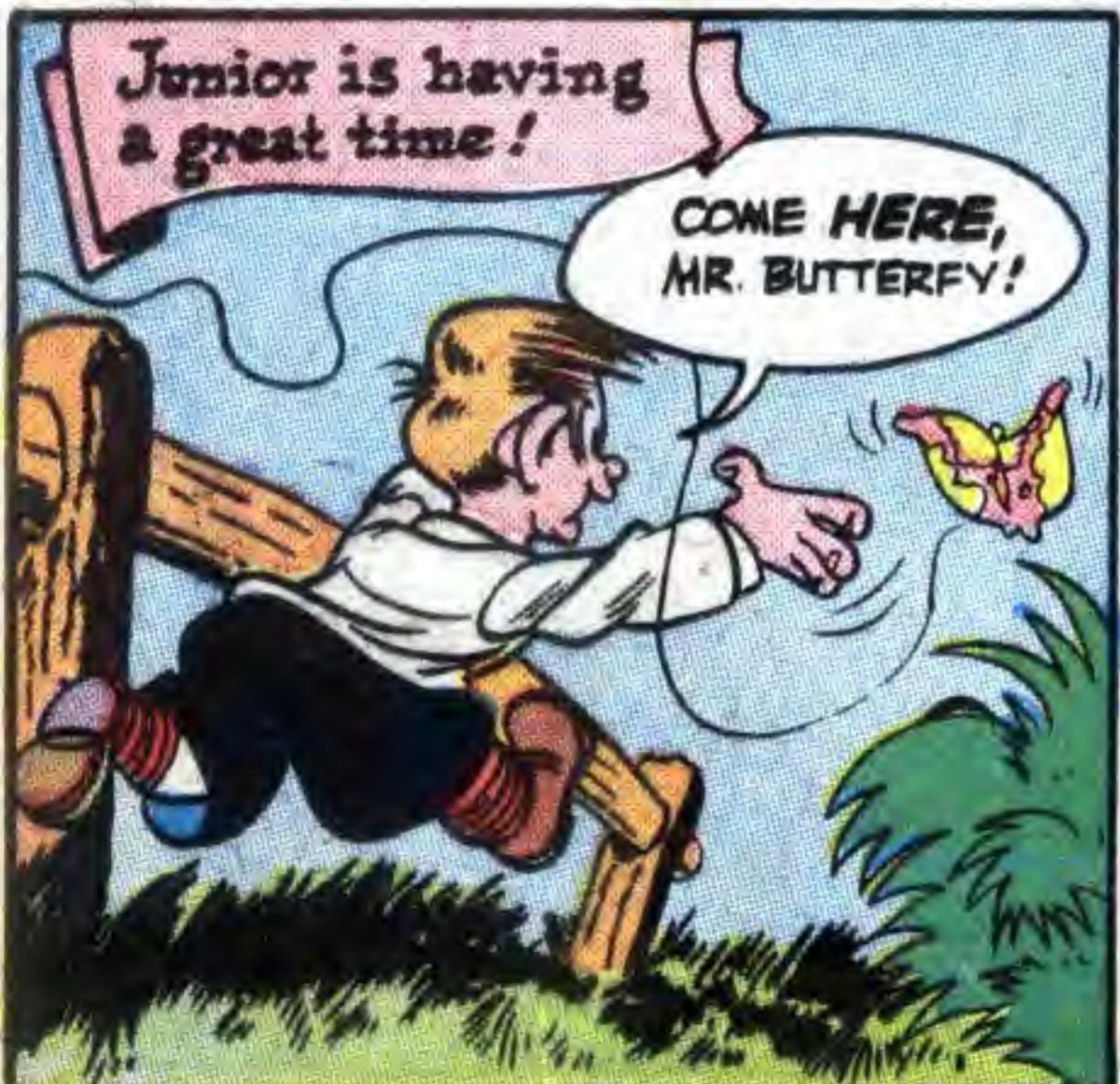
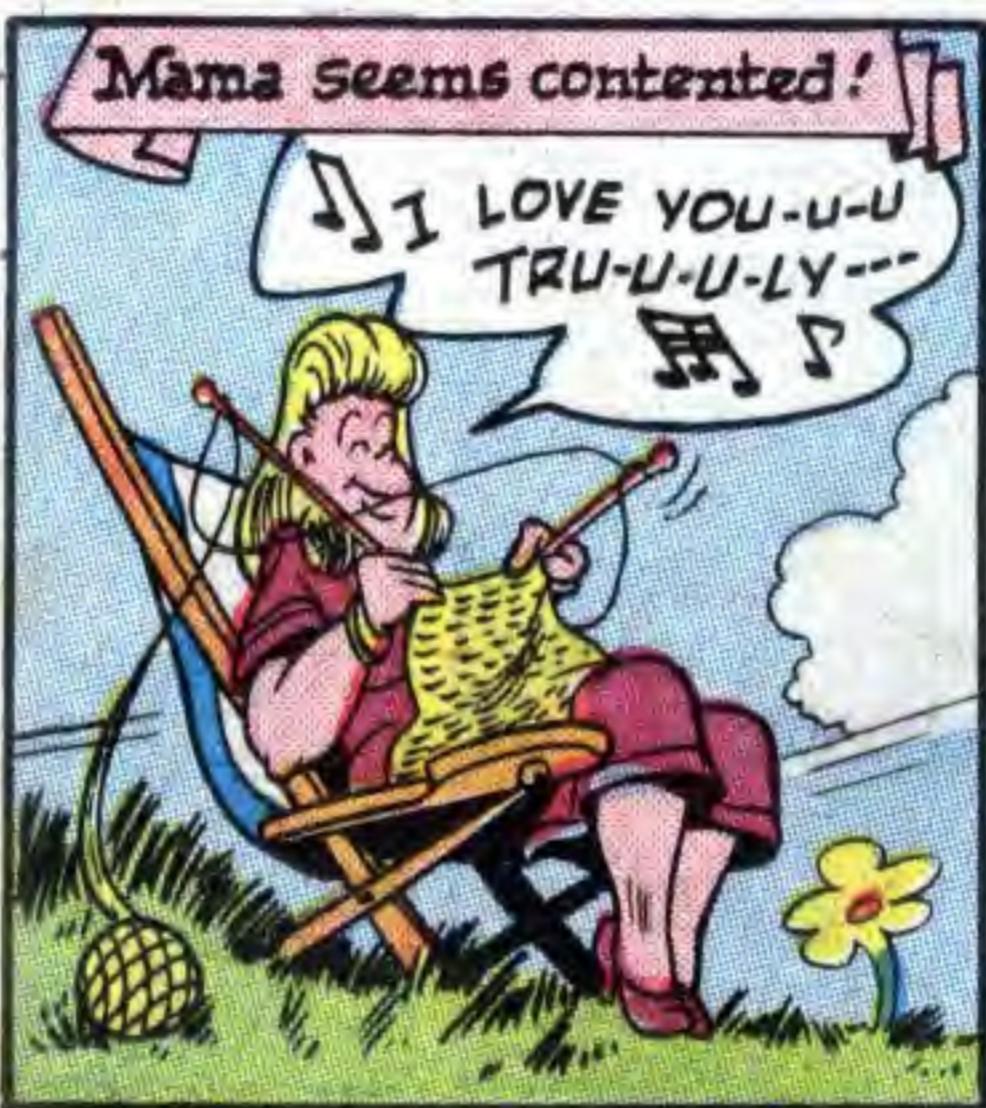
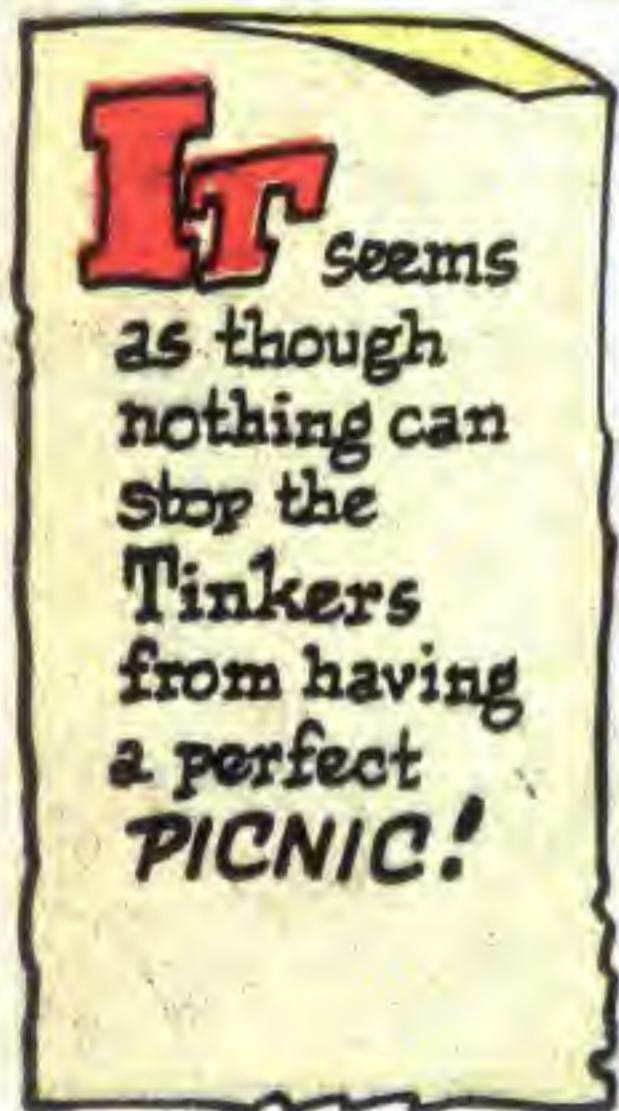
PLUNK!

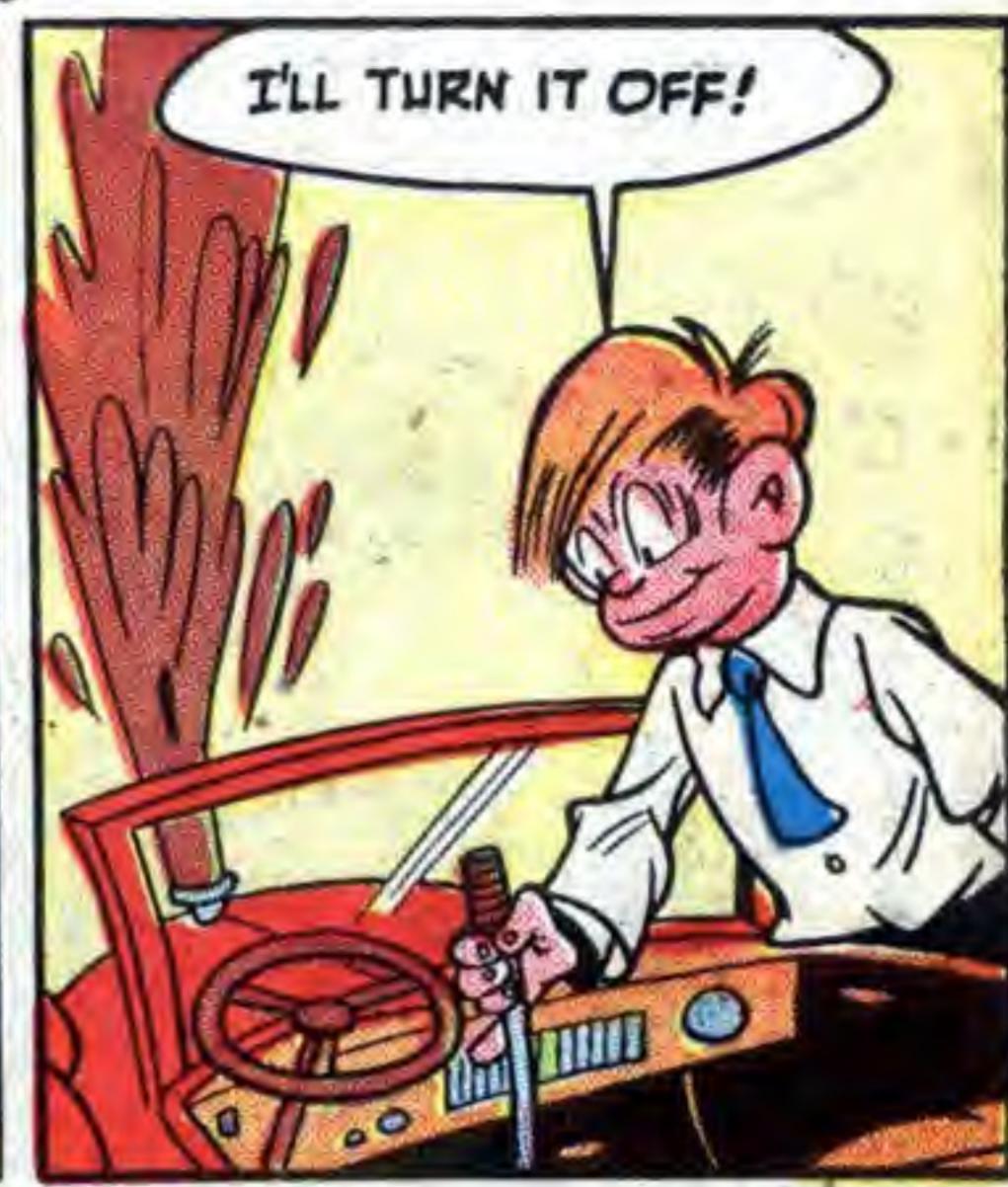
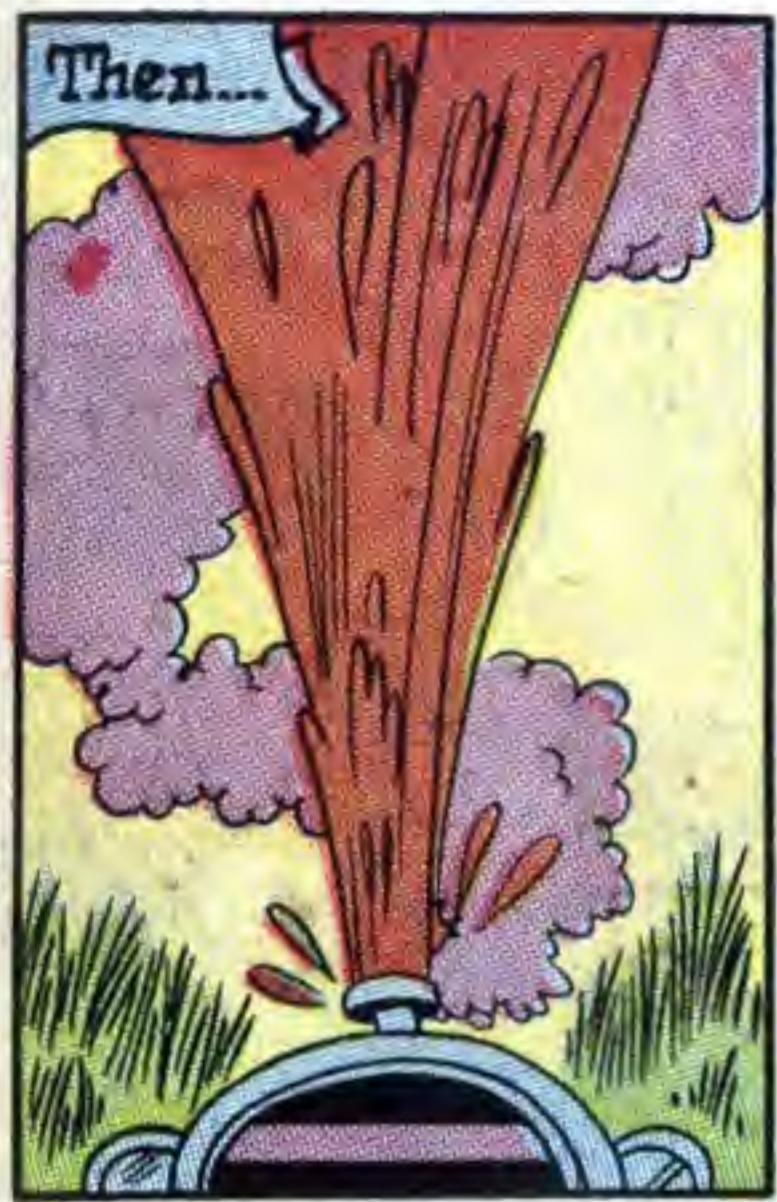
JUST WAIT TILL YOU TASTE MY
TINKER CARBURETED COFFEE...
A NEW INNOVATION!

I'LL JUST HELP IT
PERCOLATE
A LITTLE!



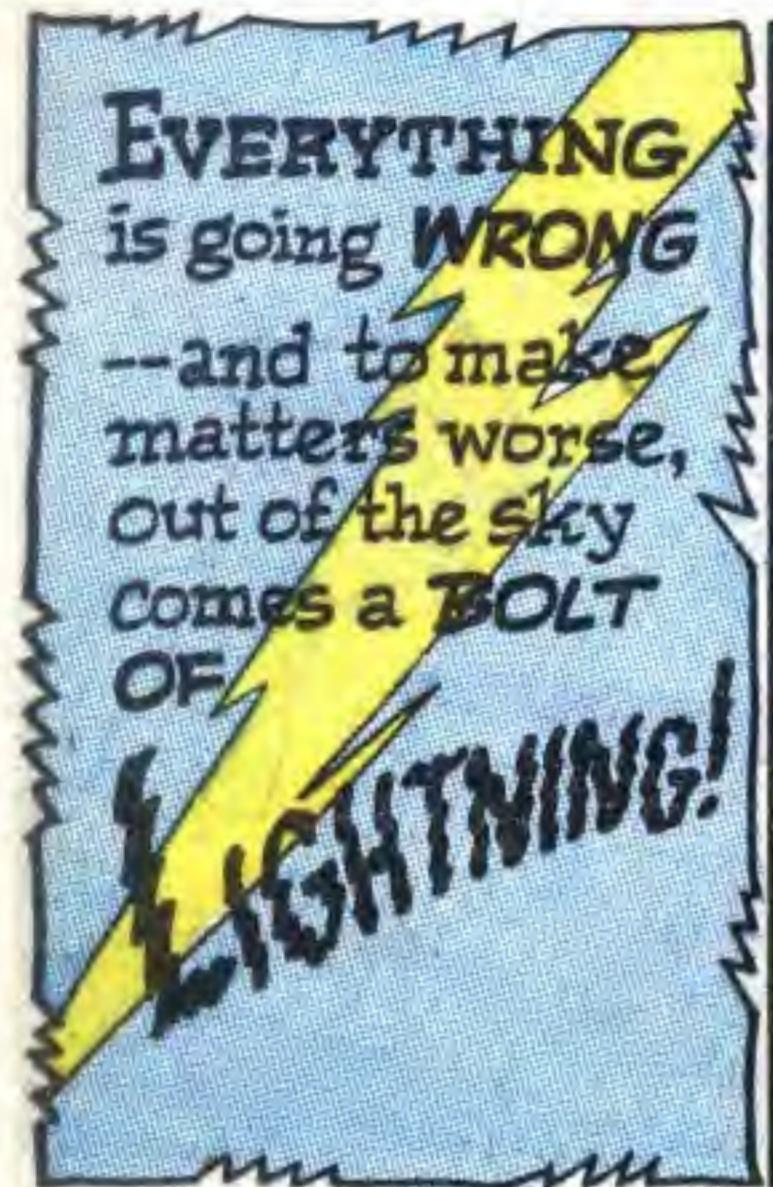






TINKER! WHAT
ARE YOU DOING?
MY DRESS IS
RUINED!

AW, GOSH!
THERE GOES MY
BUTTERFLY!



LASSIE

Roberta, Lassie and Laddie are en route to their uncle's mountain lodge, which they intend occupying alone for a short stay until the old gentleman himself takes it over for the Summer!

IT WAS NICE OF UNCLE BALTHAZAR, INVITING US TO OCCUPY HIS LODGE! BUT, MY GOODNESS, THAT ISLAND LOOKS WILD AND CREEPY IN THE TWILIGHT!

YEAH, IT DOES LOOK KINDA SPOOKY!

ARE THERE ANY WILD ANIMALS OVER THERE, MISTER?

MAYBE A FEW FOX AND SKUNK AND A B'AR OR TWO, BUT IT AIN'T THEM CRITTERS I'D BE A-FEARED OF! THAT ISLAND USED TO BE A BATTLEGROUND FOR IROQUOIS AND HURON INJUN TRIBES - AND THEY SAY GHOSTS OF SLAIN WARRIORS RAISE QUITE A RUMPLUS THAR AT NIGHTS, ONCE THEY GITS STARTED! A BODY'S LIFE AIN'T SAFE THAR AFTER DARK, IF Y' ASK ME... NOT THAT I MEAN T' WORRY Y' NONE, MUM!



WELL, HERE WE ARE, KIDS, BUT I MUST SAY I DON'T FEEL TOO OVERJOYED ABOUT IT!

BUCK UP, ROBERTA.... I THINK IT'LL BE EXCITING!

WE'LL PERTECK YA, ROBERTA!

WELL, EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE IN ORDER! THAT HELPS!



WE'LL COOK A SNACK AND THEN YOU CHILDREN GO STRAIGHT TO BED! WE'RE ALL TIRED AFTER THAT LONG TRIP!

OKAY, ROBERTA!

Later...

YEAH!... SAY, DO YOU HEAR A FUNNY NOISE?

LADDIE! ARE YOU AWAKE?

HOOOO-OOOO-OOO
AROOOO-OOEEE ---!

MUST BE ONE O' THOSE INJUN GHOSTS!

ROBERTA!
REDSKIN SPOOKS YOWLIN' OUT OUR WINDOW!

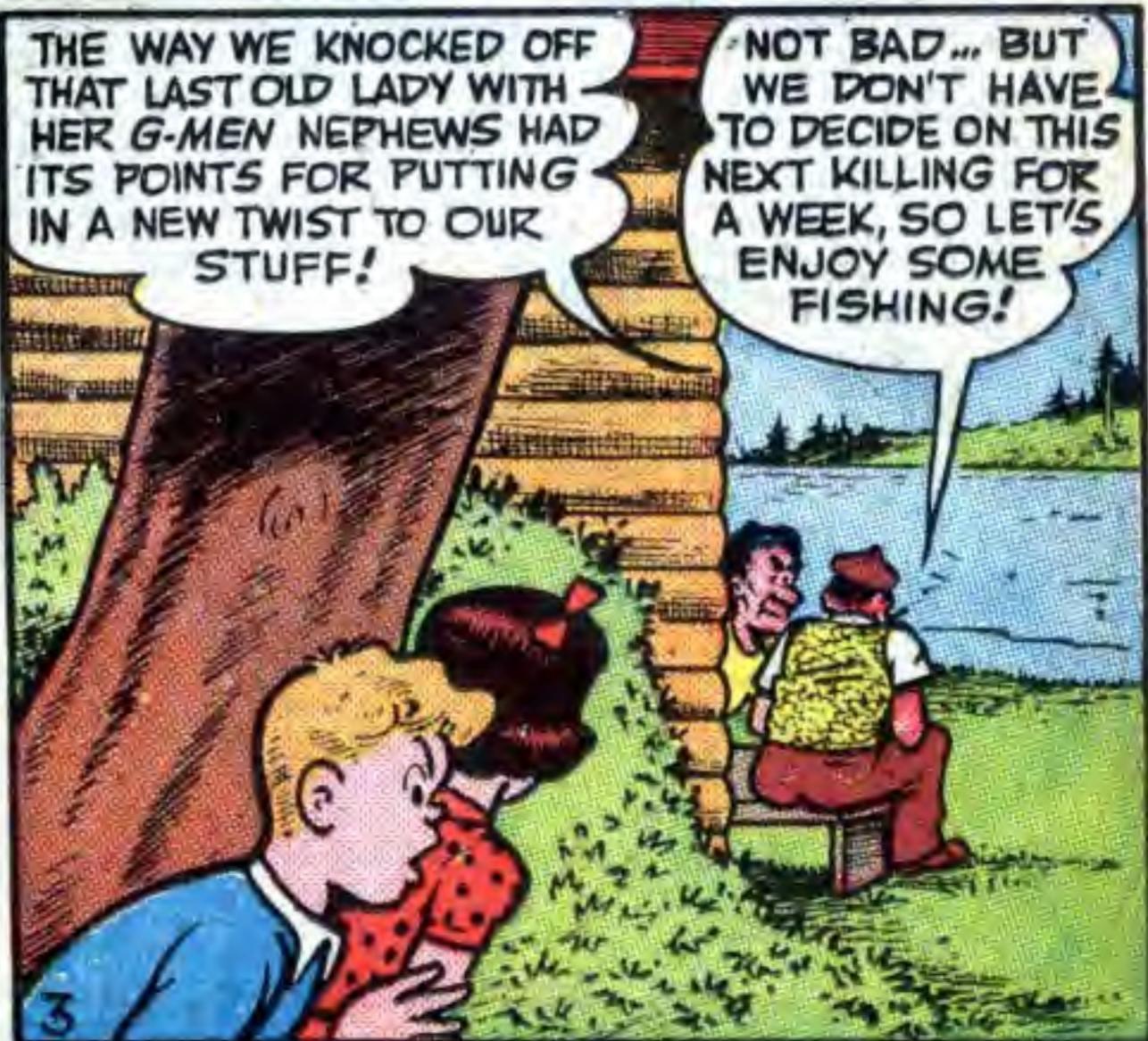
NO, KIDS, I DON'T THINK THAT'S ANY GHOSTLY WAR WHOOP THIS TIME!

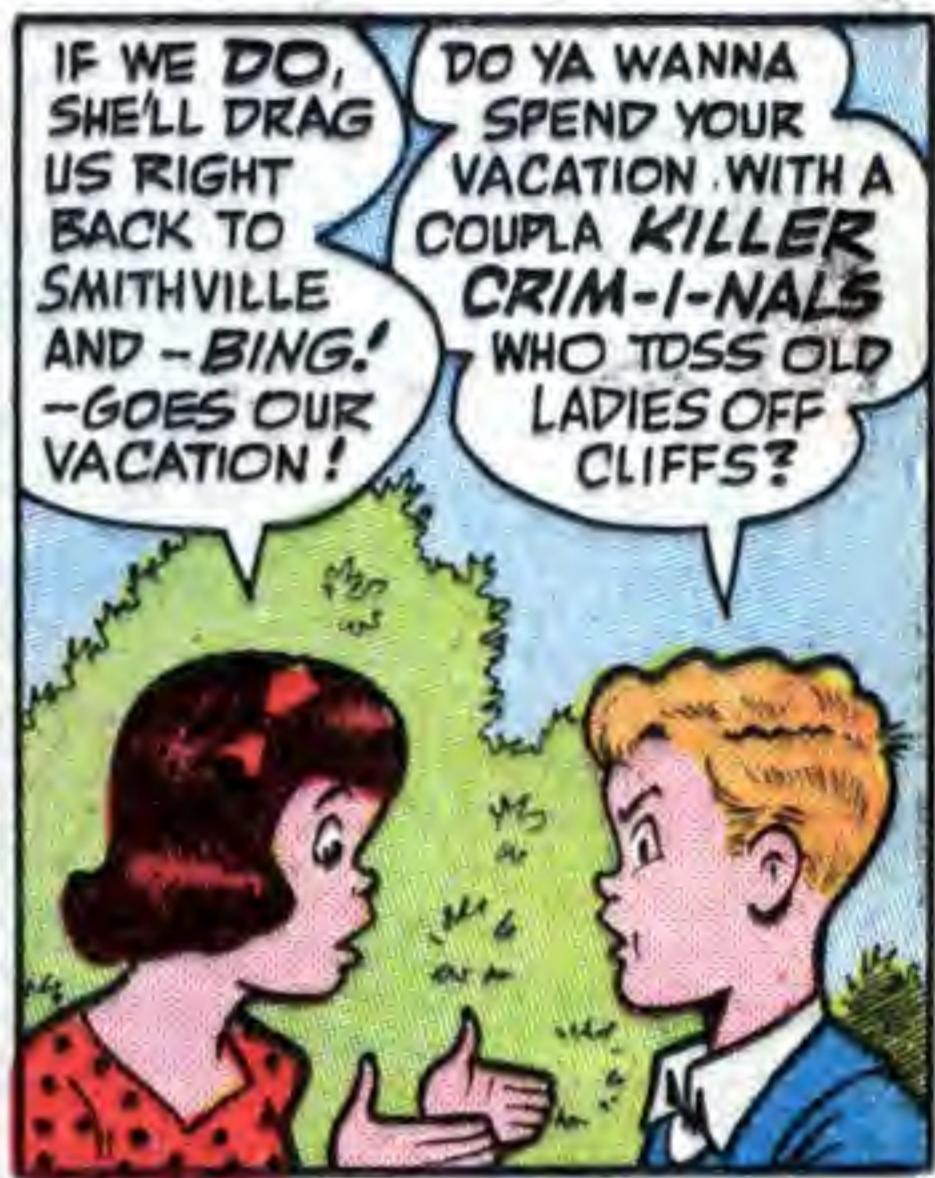
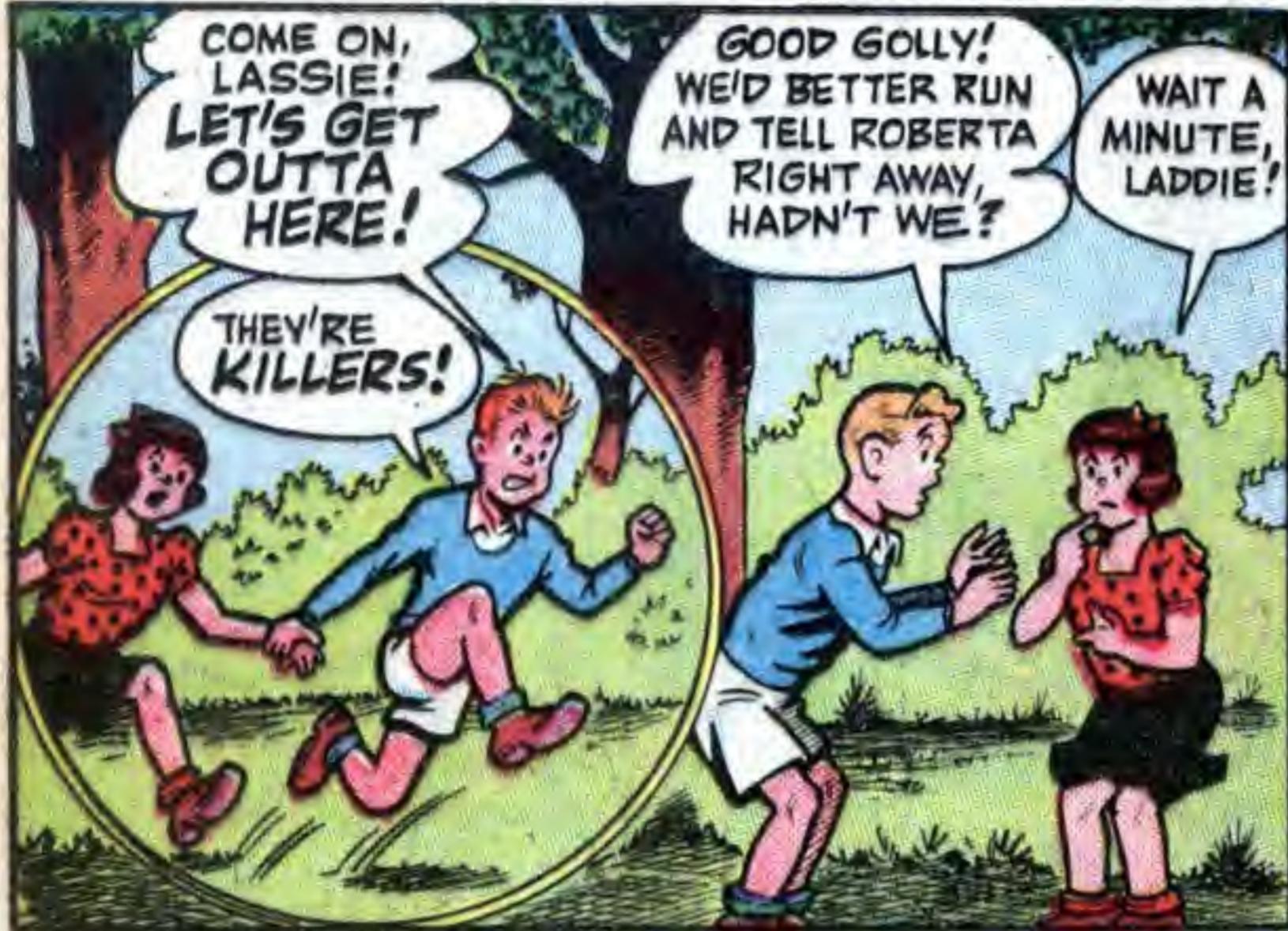
HOOOEEE!
AEEOOOOO!

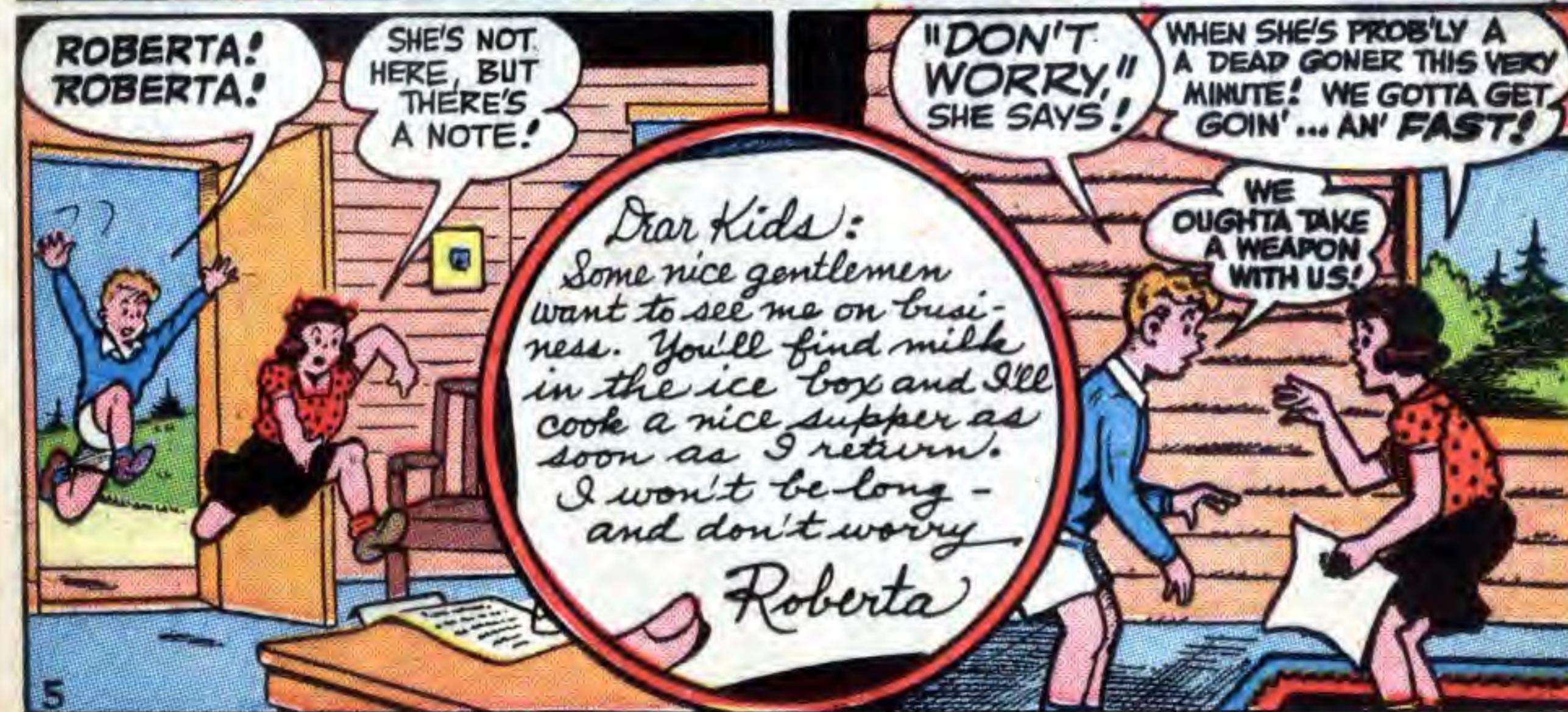
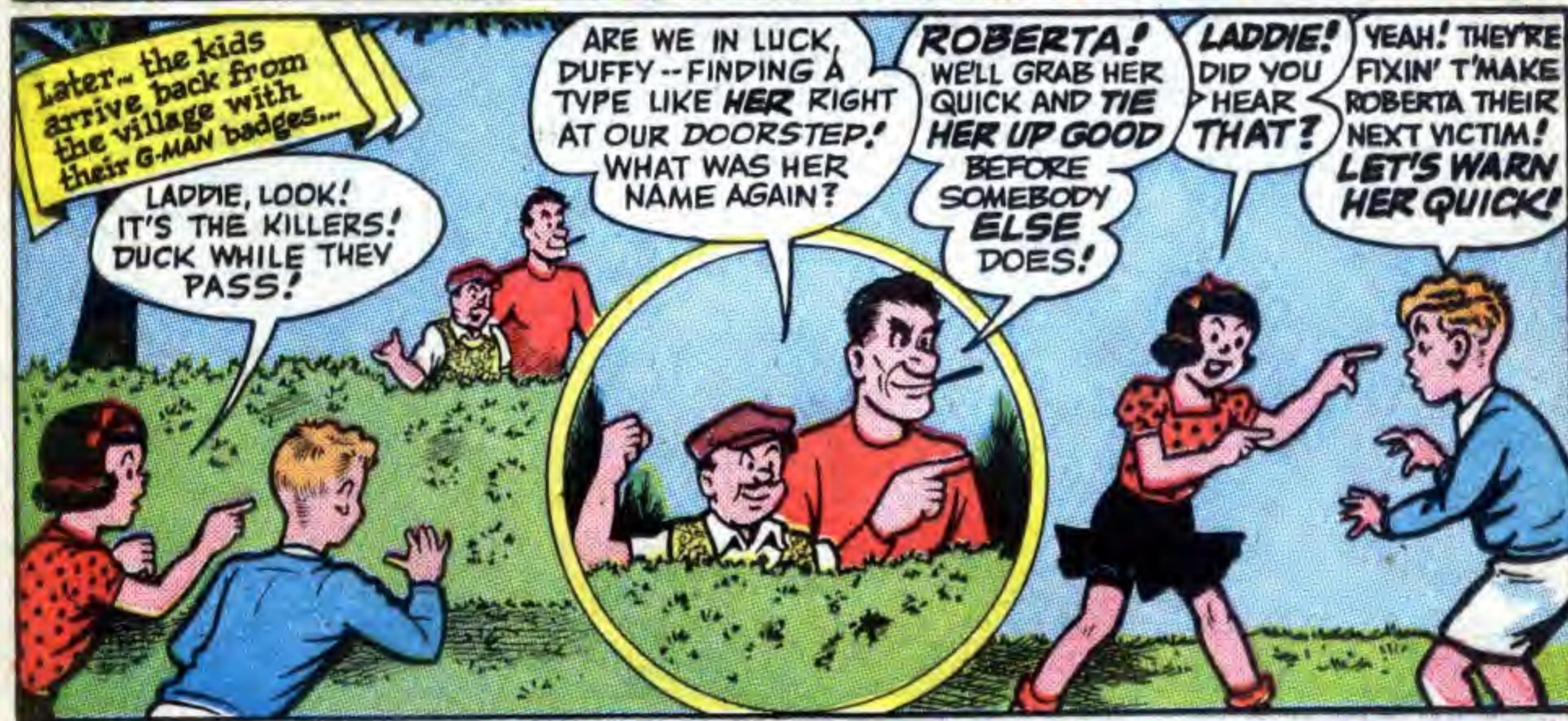
JUST A SILLY,
ORNERY OLD OWL!

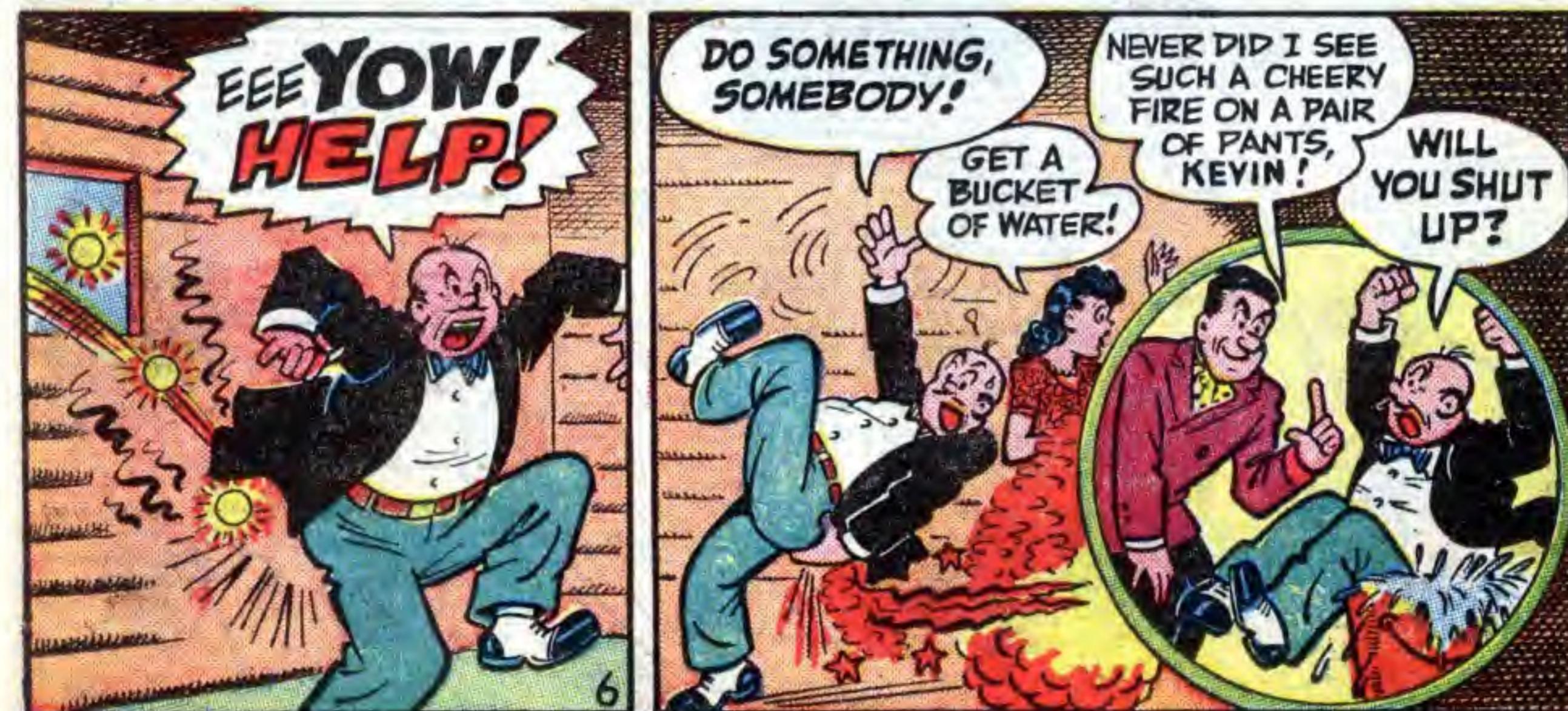
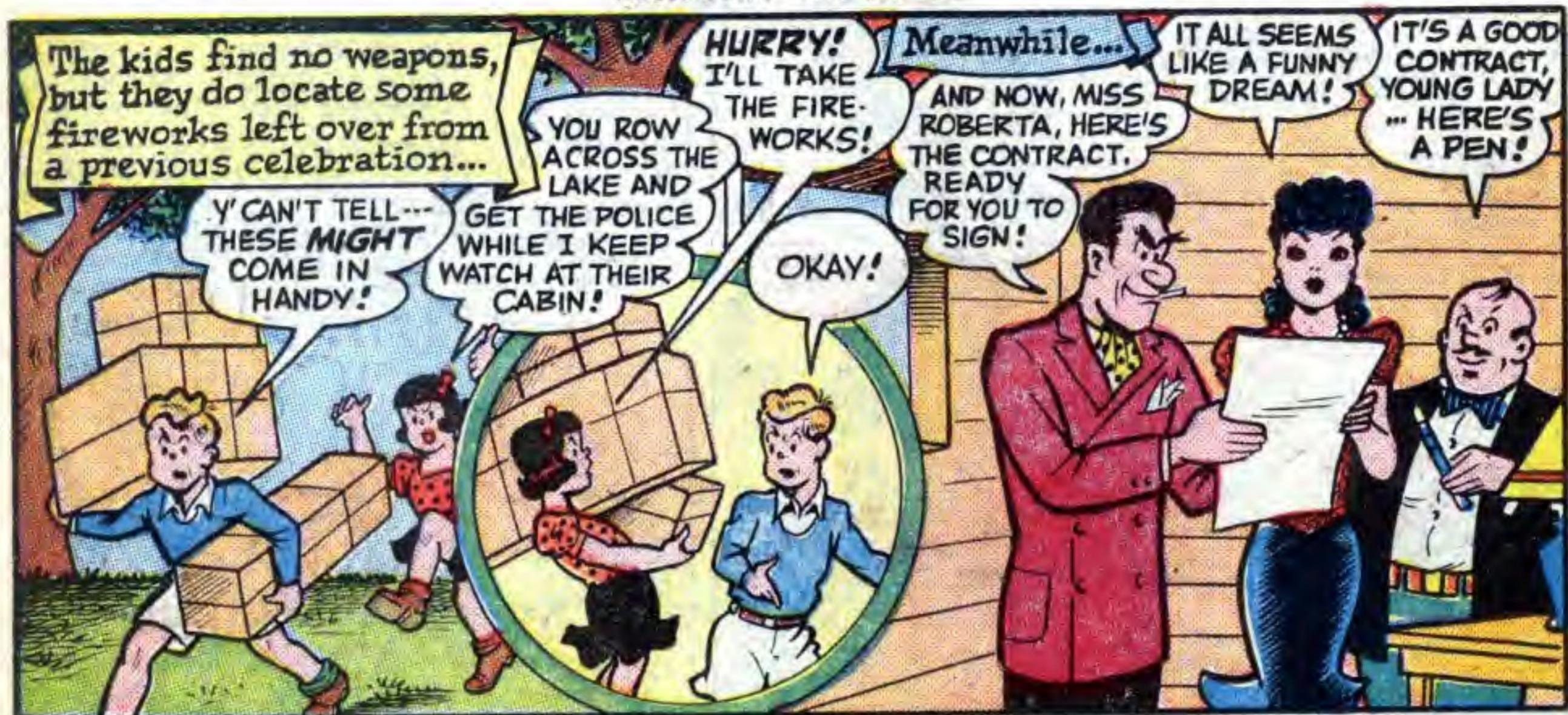
WILL YOU LOOK AT THE FRESH MUG?

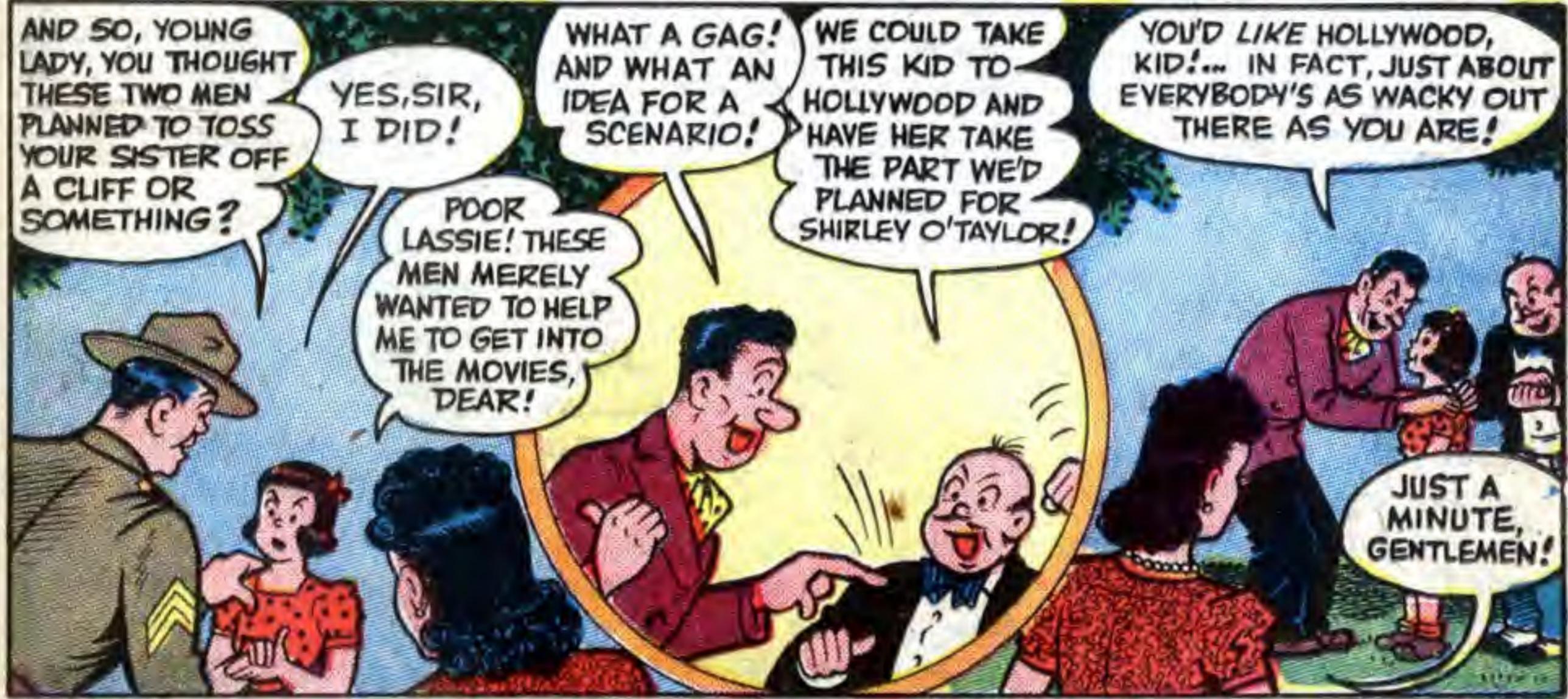












WOLF BREED

JIM LARSEN—known as ‘Wolf’—kept the bow of the trim canoe headed into the wild white water. Jim was an expert canoe-man. He was an expert shot. And it may as well be known now that he was a murderer.

Not that being a murderer caused Wolf any pangs of remorse. The man he had shot was better, far better, out of the way. Better for Wolf’s peace of mind. Because Dane would never again trouble Wolf. Dane was very dead, back there in his Rat River cabin.

Wolf was sure that nothing pointed to him as the killer. But a fellow couldn’t be too careful, when the Northwest Mounted was known to be on the loose in these woods.

It was especially dangerous when Inspector Lance McCall was known to be in the woods. McCall knew the bush. He was a canny chap with a keen nose for clues. Fugitives seldom got away from him for long. McCall never gave up the trail until he had ‘got his man.’

Wolf wasn’t worrying particularly about McCall as he paddled his canoe swiftly through the river, heading toward his own cabin on the Nenana. He whistled a snatch of song as he shot the craft inshore and got out. Carefully he drew the canoe up on the beach and lifted his rifle and pack from the bottom.

The air had a nip of frost in it. Wolf soon had a cheery fire built and shoved the coffee pot onto the stove. Then he got down a frying

pan and sliced some fat bacon in it. A can of baked beans followed. Then while these things were cooking, sending off a sweet smell, Wolf made sourdough biscuits. These he slid into the oven on a hickory shingle.

Wolf snapped on his battery radio before he sat down to eat. He picked up a Montreal broadcast, but soon turned the dial. Then he pricked up his big ears. The announcer was broadcasting the report of the finding of Dane Sigrest’s body in his cabin, shot through the head. There were no clues as to his murderer.

A chuckle rumbled from Wolf’s throat. No clues. Of course there were no clues! What did they think he was, a fool? He didn’t leave clues scattered around where he pulled off a little job.

With a huge roaring fire going in the stone fireplace, Wolf sat down for a quiet evening. A storm had been gathering, and pretty soon it broke with a wild snarling of wind down over the tundras. Wolf hitched his chair closer the fire and toasted his feet on the hearth. It was good to be in out of the tempest. He pitied, in his small, crass way, anyone who was out in this blizzard.

He was reading a month-old newspaper when there came a sharp knocking at his door. Wolf started, reaching for the pistol that hung in a belt on the mantel. He buckled this about him, then advanced to the barred door.

With a quick movement, Wolf slipped the bar out and let the door swing inward. He was standing be-

hind it, gun in hand, as Inspector McCall entered, looking around.

Grinning wolfishly, Wolf holstered his gun and said, “Well, this is a surprise, McCall!”

“Hello, Larsen,” said the officer. “Cold out to-night.” He removed his vivid red coat and stood with his back to it, warming his blue hands.

“Put you up, if you ain’t pushin’ on,” offered Wolf.

“May take you up on that, Larsen.”

“Lookin’ for someone?” Wolf asked casually.

“Yeah. The guy that killed Dane Sigrest.”

“Dane killed!” exclaimed Wolf in well-feigned surprise. “You don’t say so!”

McCall nodded. “Don’t know anything about it, do you?” he asked the big man.

“Me? Heck no. Not that I’m gonna shed any tears over Dane. Never liked the man.”

“I know. A lot of people know that, Larsen. You and Dane weren’t good friends.”

Wolf narrowed his eyes. “You ain’t meanin’ anything by that, are you, McCall?”

“Oh, no, no, Larsen. Just thought I’d ask you. I found your snowshoe tracks in the vicinity of his cabin, is all.”

A flicker of annoyance crossed Wolf’s face. “My tracks? How do you know they was mine?”

NATIONAL COMICS

McCall indicated the long, racy snowshoes standing near the door. "Know 'em by the webbing. Yours are different than anybody's around here."

Wolf's hand wasn't far from his gun butt. "I don't like your insinuation, McCall. What if I was near Dane's cabin? Prob'lly a lot of people were. They's a lot of trappers around here. Indians mebbe."

McCall nodded, smiling. "I know your shoes are Indian-made," he said pointedly. "And they're just like the ones the Crees wear. Only there's a difference. Yours have a particular webbing, which you put in yourself, probably to make them stronger. Right?"

Wolf snarled, "So that makes me the killer, eh?"

McCall held up a hand. "Take it easy, Larsen. I said nothing of the kind. I only wanted to be sure you had been near Dane's cabin recently. I'm not accusing you."

"You'd better not!" snapped Wolf.

Wolf set out another plate and heated what was left over. McCall sat down and ate quietly. There was a tenseness over the two men, a watchfulness. And the eyes of each never left the other's movements.

When he had finished drinking a steaming cup of coffee, McCall got up and strode to the corner where Wolf's rifle stood. Casually he picked it up, broke it and extracted a shell.

"Hm," he said musingly. "A 30-06. Not many of that calibre up here. Funny, it was a 30-06 slug they dug out of Dane's head."

McCall replaced the rifle and his right hand started toward his pocket. Wolf was jumpy. He mis-

judged the move. His revolver leaped into his hand and roared. McCall, clutching at his breast, reeled and tottered, then stumbled toward a chair. He slumped down with a groan.

"You shouldn't have done that, Larsen. Th-the slug wasn't a 30-06; it was a 45. I just said that so—" McCall toppled to the floor and lay still, a red foam on his lips.

Wolf cursed. So McCall had nothing on him, after all! Good heavens, what a mess he'd made of things now!

But then McCall had no business saying that. It had cost him his life. Wolf started. He was in for it now. You didn't pot a mountie without terrible results. He'd have to do something about McCall's body. But what?

A thought struck Wolf. He was about finished up here. He'd simply disappear. Go over the border. That would solve everything. The storm would obliterate the tracks McCall said he had seen near Dane's cabin. No one else knew about them. But the body...

Ah, yes he was finished with this cabin now. It would be an easy matter to burn it. Being a frugal man, Wolf went through the dead man's pockets, lifted out a sizeable roll and pocketed it. He didn't touch the valuable wrist watch; too incriminating. Nor anything else belonging to McCall. He left him lying just where he had fallen.

Hurriedly packing his things, Wolf scattered fire everywhere, lighted the bedclothes, and set fire to the shack roof. With the howling wind, it would make a fine blaze. Then Wolf left the cabin, closing the door.

When he was several miles away, he could still see the red

glow in the sky from the burning cabin. That fire would burn everything, even McCall!

One thing Wolf Larsen hadn't reckoned with was fate. A few days later he was trekking through heavy drifts when he chanced to glance over his shoulder to see a tiny bobbing speck black against the snow. He halted and lifted his glasses to his eyes. The dot leaped into view. It was a Mountie. He wore a long fur overcoat, and he was making fair time on his snow-shoes.

Wolf cursed under his breath. Was the man following him? But no. Why should he be?

Wolf pulled off from the trail and squatted behind some bushes. Quickly the Mountie drew nearer. It was a member of the Force. Wolf didn't recognize. There was a menacing set to the man's jaw. The Mountie came up even with the bushes and stopped. He called, "Come out with your hands up, Larsen. I'm arresting you for the murder of Officer McCall."

Wolf gasped. How—

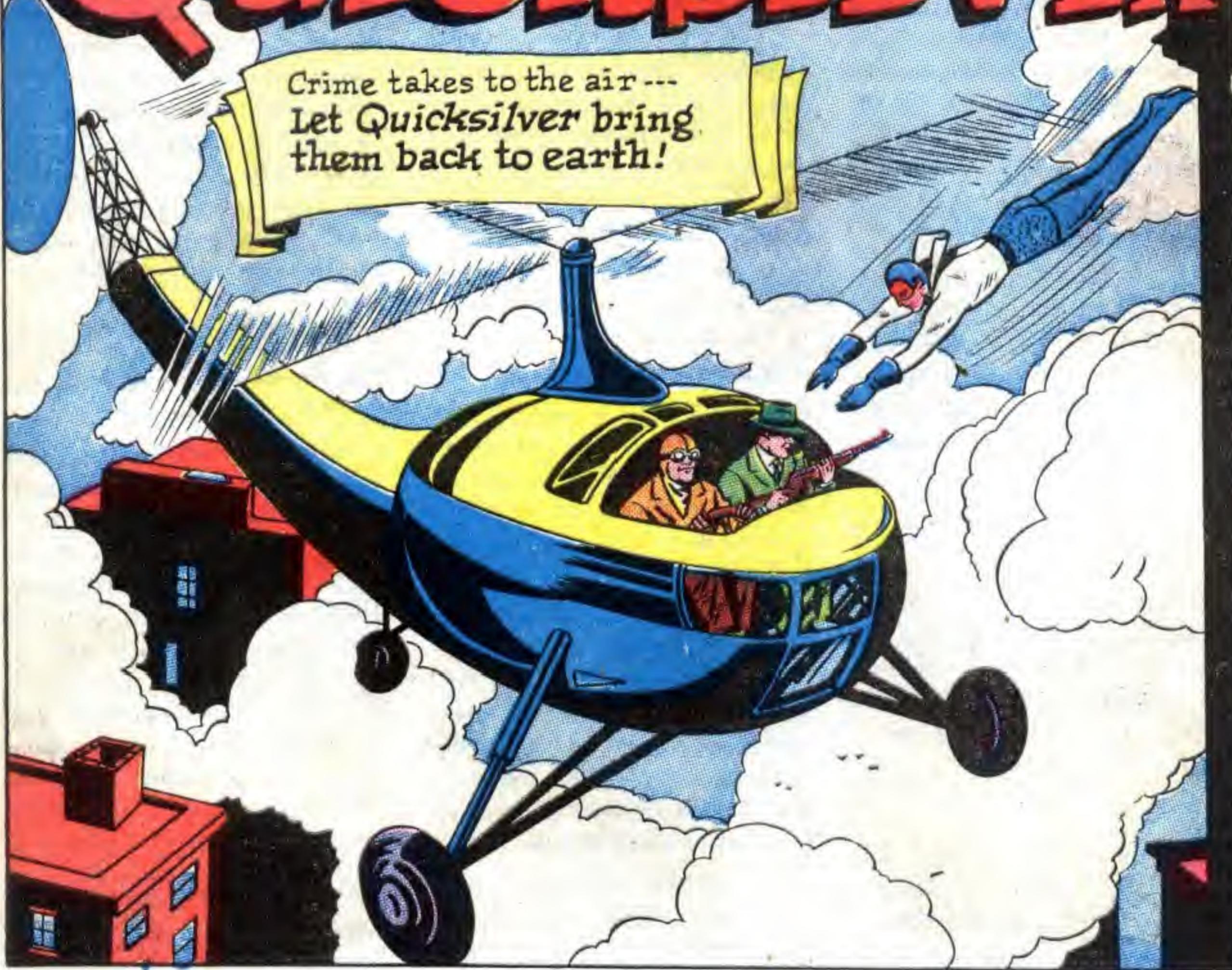
The Mountie's voice came again: "That fire was no good, Larsen. It burned everything except McCall's identification disk. Otherwise it would have been unrecognizable. Are you coming out peacefully?"

Wolf, his eyes slitted, lifted his rifle and trained it on the Mountie's breast. Was he coming out! What a laugh! He pulled the trigger. The rear knocked him backward several feet, one side of his face blown away.

Wolf Larsen had met his fate. His rifle had been stuck in the snow, which had frozen in the muzzle. The shot had backfired, blowing the breech out—and Wolf's brains.

QUICKSILVER

Crime takes to the air...
Let Quicksilver bring
them back to earth!



Quicksilver has been trailing
a certain master hi-jacker....

GOT YOU,
RODSBY!

LOOKING FOR ME,
QUICKSILVER? I
WAS LOOKING FOR
YOU?

YOU'RE TOUGH ON US HEISTERS,
BUT YOU'RE SQUARE! TAKE ME
DOWN TO THE POKEY AND
LOCK ME UP!

YOU WERE
ON THE WAY TO
SURRENDER?
WHY?

I'M A BACK NUMBER! OOZED
OUT OF ALL MY RACKETS! AT
LEAST I CAN GET FOOD
AND A BED IN JAIL---

YOU MEAN THAT
CRIME TODAY IS
TOO MODERN?
EXPLAIN!

NATIONAL COMICS



JUST LIKE
A CHUTE-
THE-CHUTE!

MAKE
ROOM FOR
ME!

IT'S THAT
QUICKSILVER
WEASEL!
CONK HIM!

MOVE
OVER! IT'S
CROWDED!

FINISH HIM, OR
WE'LL NEVER GET
TO THE KICKSHAW
BUILDING!

THERE
HE GOES--AND
A LONG WAY
DOWN!

Down whirls Quicksilver--
but fate is on his side--

I'M GLAD SOMEBODY
LEFT HIS AWNING
OUT!

WONDERFUL
THINGS, TELEPHONE
WIRES!

NOW, WHAT DID
CRIBB SAY? SOMETHING
ABOUT THE **KICKSHAW**
BUILDING!

NATIONAL COMICS

An attempt to telephone ...

PLEASE
CENTRAL! IT'S
A MATTER
OF UTMOST
IMPORTANCE!

I AM SOR-REE!
MR. KICKSHAW HAS
A PRIVATE NUMBER!
WE ARE NOT ALLOWED
TO DI-VULGE IT!



Next ... The Kickshaw Building ...

YOU
MUST LET
ME IN!

I DON'T HAVE
TO DO ANYTHING
EXCEPT OBEY MR. KICKSHAW'S
ORDERS -- WHICH ARE TO
KEEP THIS PLACE LOCKED!
SCRAM!



AND EVEN THE UPPER
WINDOWS ARE BARRED!
I'LL HAVE TO GO HIGHER--
HIGHER ---



-- CLEAR
TO THE
TOP!



HOW DARE YOU,
YOUNG MAN! THIS
ROOF IS MY PRIVATE
PROPERTY!

THEN YOU'RE KICKSHAW!
I'VE COME TO HELP YOU!
YOU'RE DUE TO BE ROBBED
ANY MOMENT!

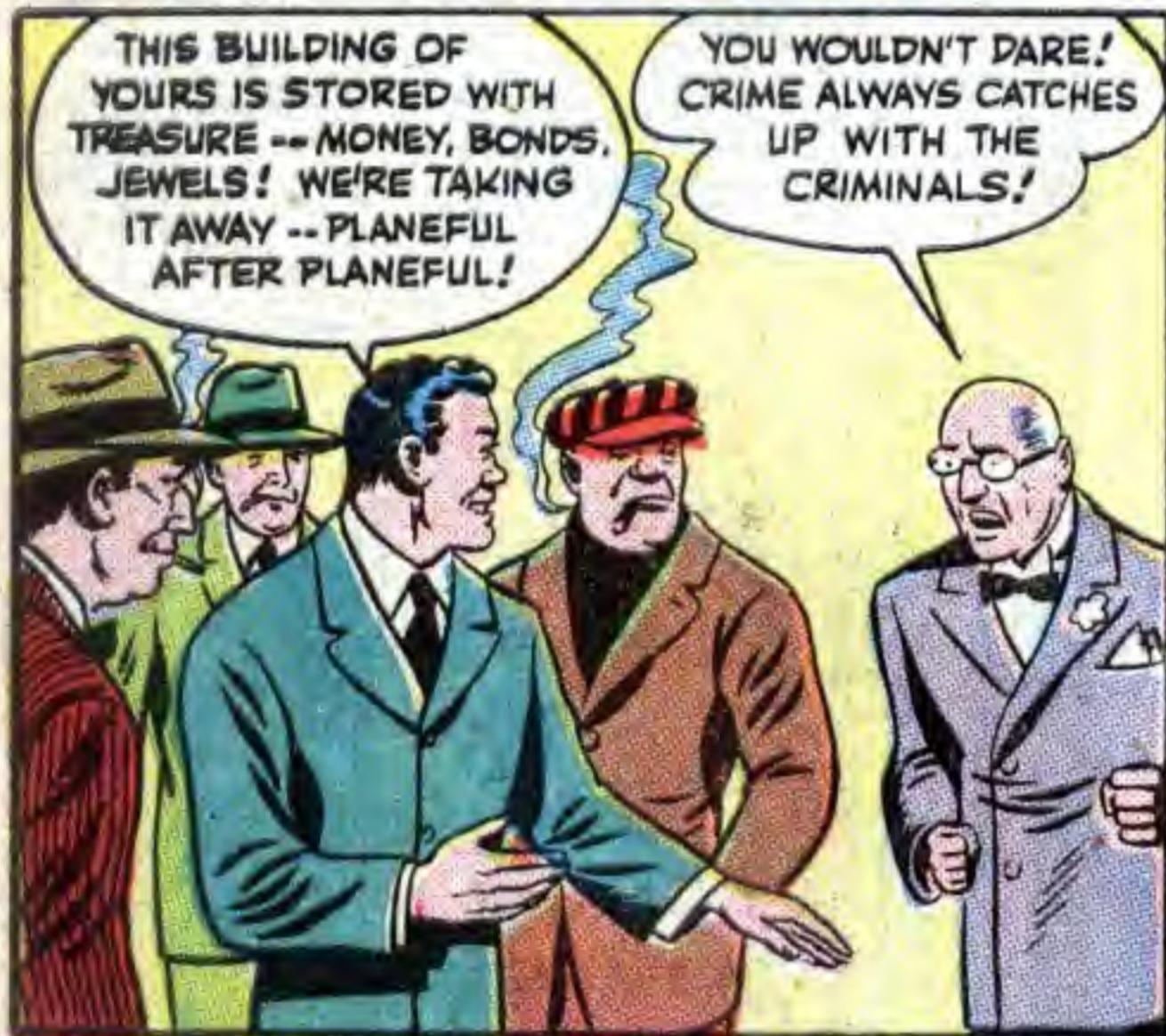


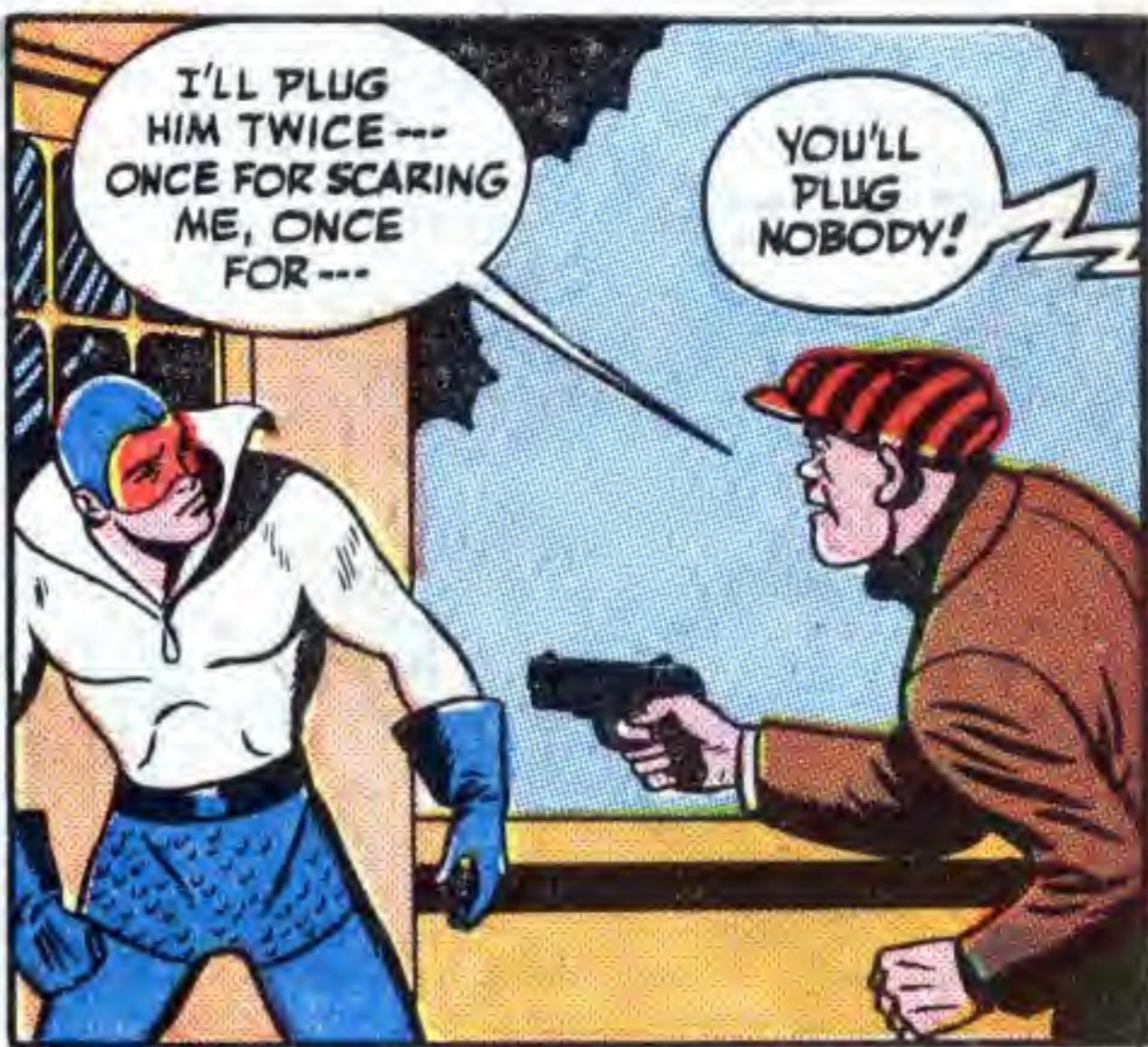
PREPOSTEROUS!
GET OUT OF
HERE!

LOOK UP THERE!
THAT AUTOGYRO
HAS BEEN SCOUTING
FOR YOU --- NOW
IT'S COMING
DOWN!



NATIONAL COMICS





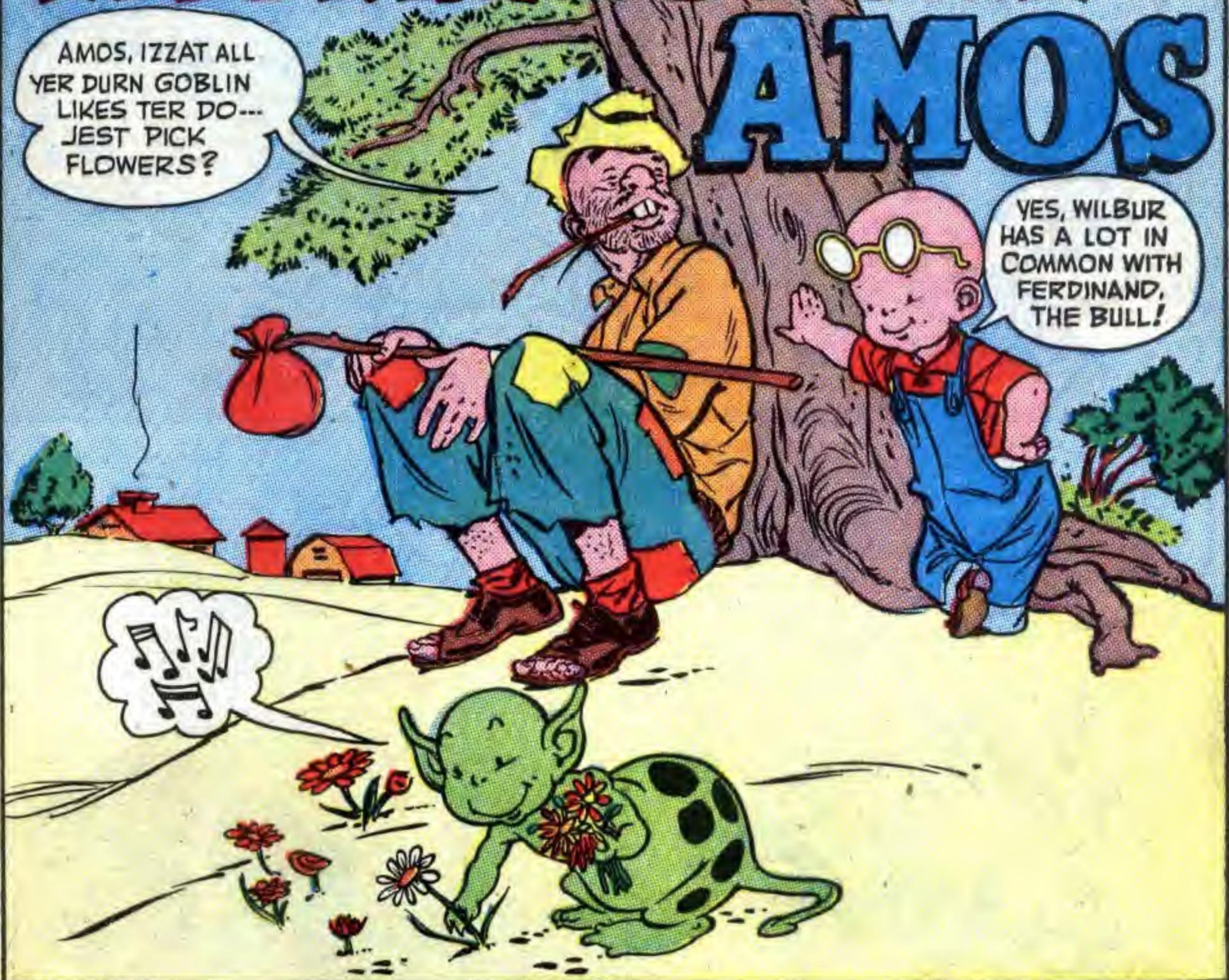


INTELLECTUAL AMOS

by
André
Le Blanc

AMOS, IZZAT ALL
YER DURN GOBLIN
LIKES TER DO---
JEST PICK
FLOWERS?

YES, WILBUR
HAS A LOT IN
COMMON WITH
FERDINAND,
THE BULL!

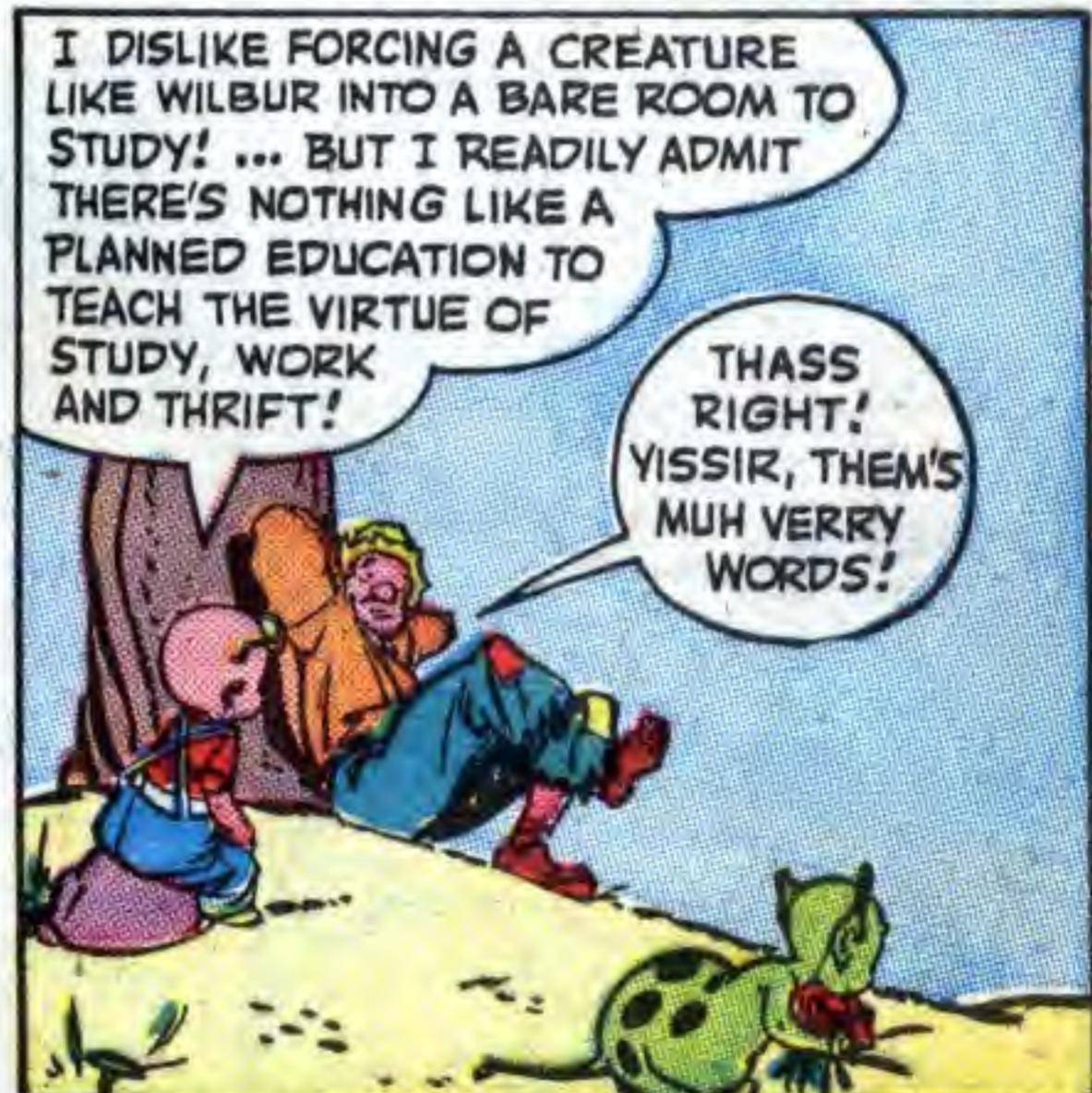
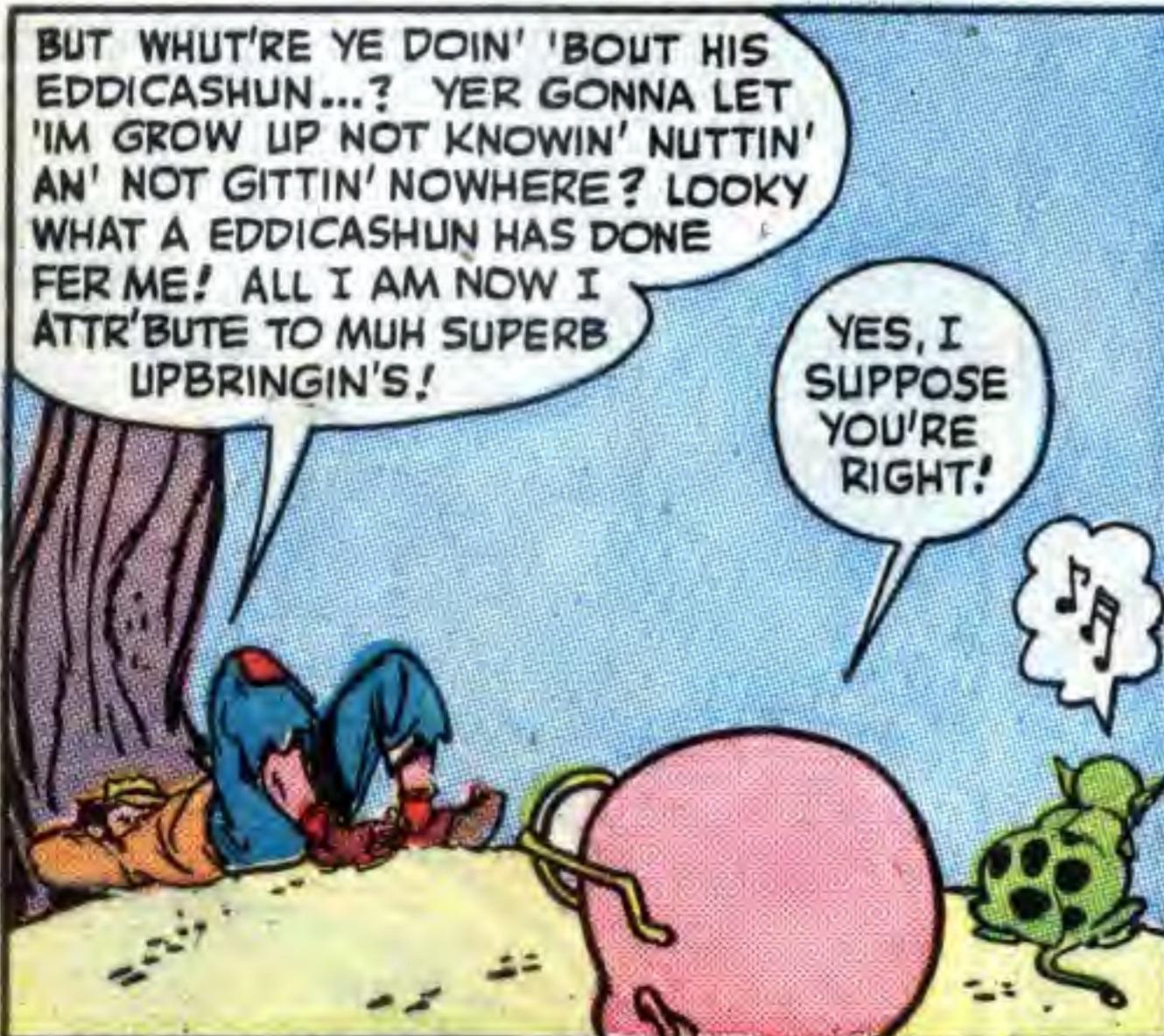


BUT WHUT'RE YE DOIN' 'BOUT HIS
EDDICASHUN...? YER GONNA LET
'IM GROW UP NOT KNOWIN' NUTTIN'
AN' NOT GITTIN' NOWHERE? LOOKY
WHAT A EDDICASHUN HAS DONE
FER ME! ALL I AM NOW I
ATTR'BUTE TO MUH SUPERB
UPBRINGIN'S!

YES, I
SUPPOSE
YOU'RE
RIGHT!

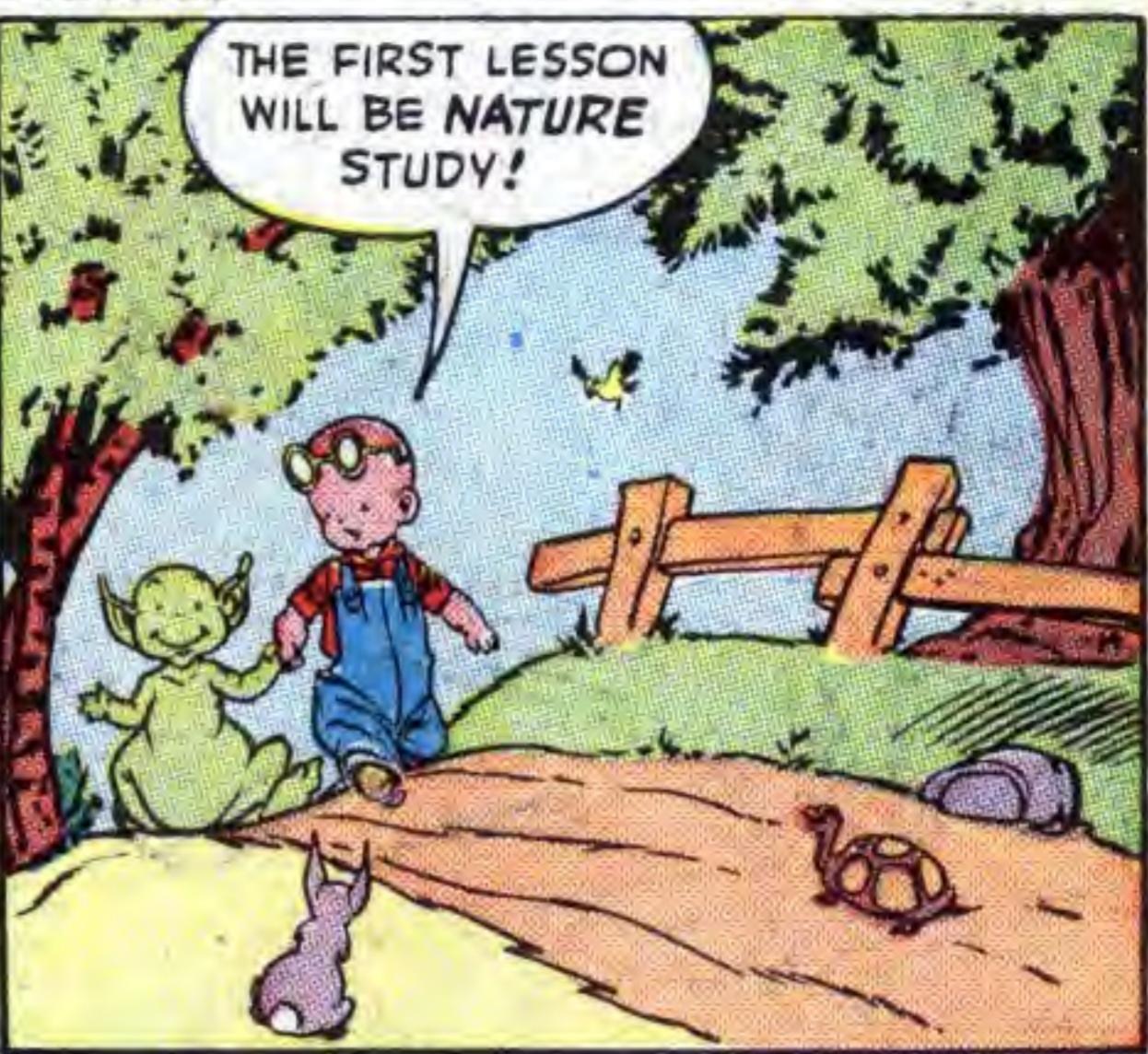
I DISLIKE FORCING A CREATURE
LIKE WILBUR INTO A BARE ROOM TO
STUDY! ... BUT I READILY ADMIT
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A
PLANNED EDUCATION TO
TEACH THE VIRTUE OF
STUDY, WORK
AND THRIFT!

THASS
RIGHT!
VISSIR, THEM'S
MUH VERRY
WORDS!



BUT PERHAPS THERE IS A WAY TO MAKE STUDY MORE AGREEABLE ... AND IT SHOULD PROVE HELPFUL NOT ONLY FOR WILBUR, BUT FOR ALL SCHOOL KIDS AS WELL!

THE FIRST LESSON WILL BE NATURE STUDY!

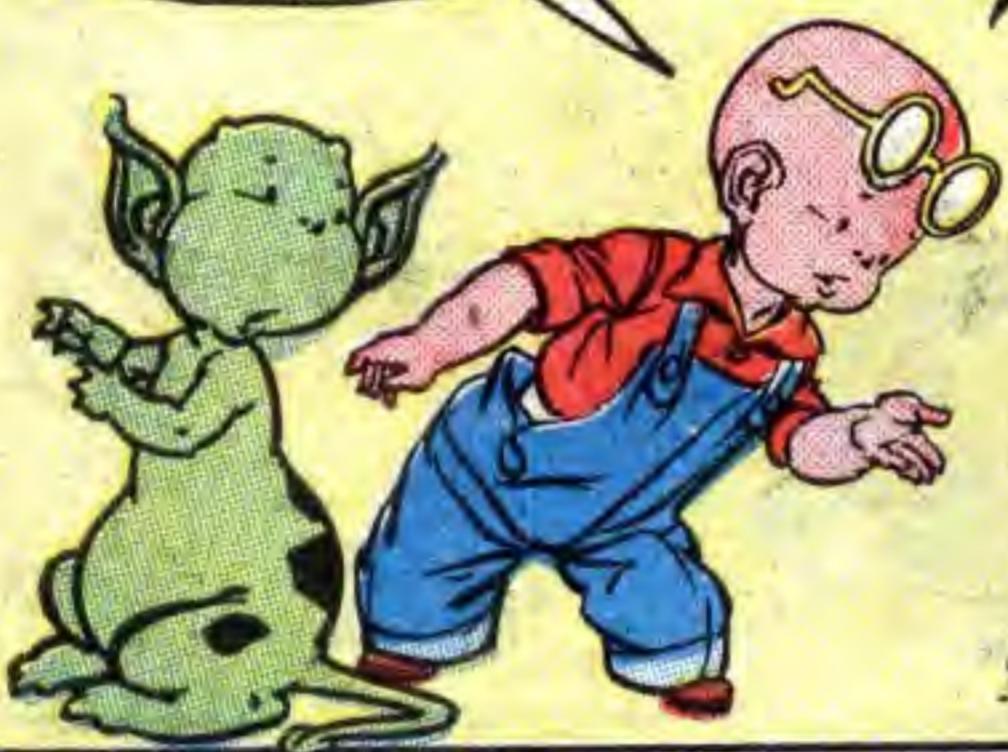


THE SYMBOLS OF NATURE, WILBUR, ARE EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN OUR ALPHABET... AND USING A LITTLE IMAGINATION MAKES ANY DULL TASK PLEASANT!

FOR EXAMPLE, THIS LITTLE ANT HURRYING ALONG....

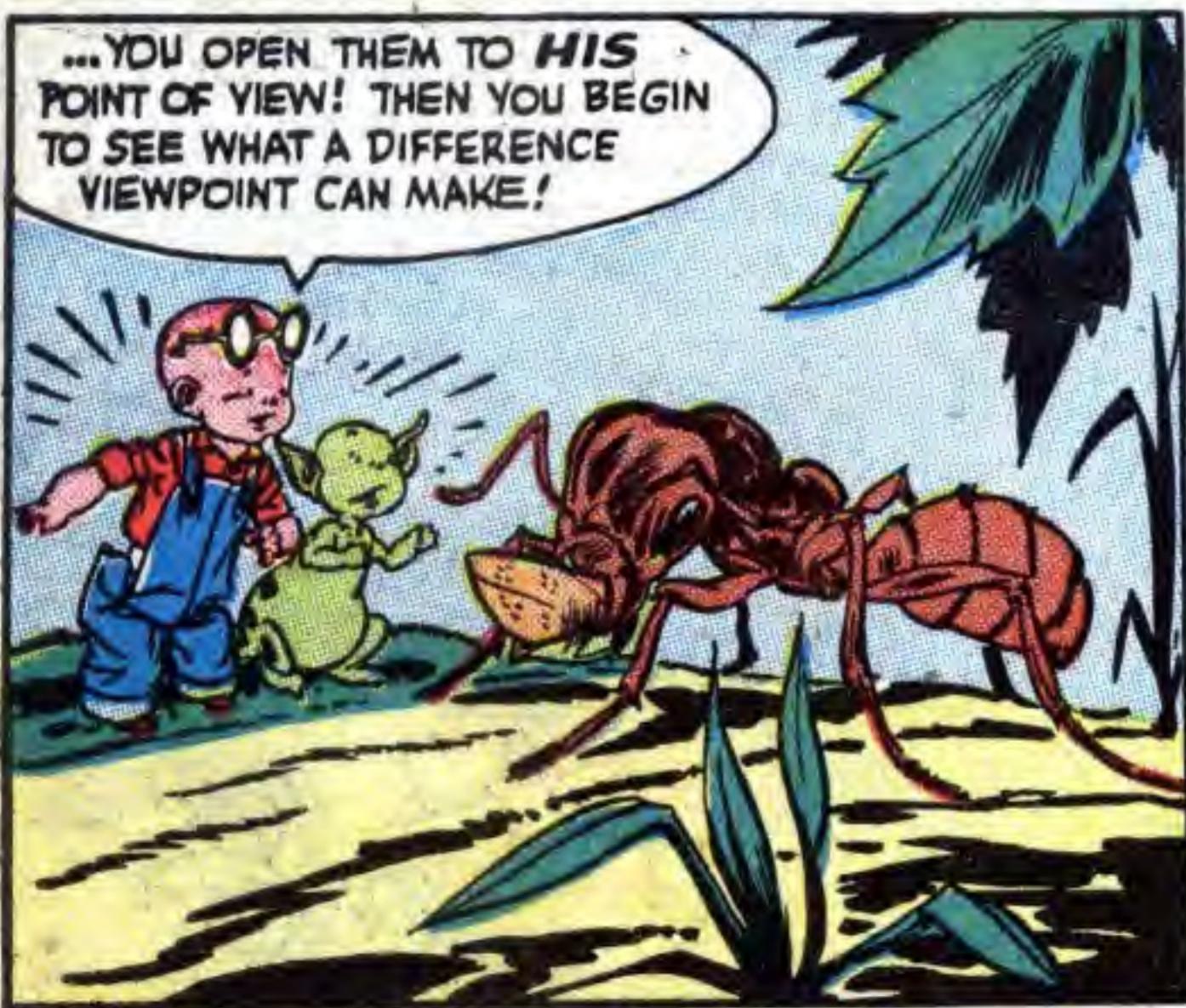
HE SEEMS SMALL AND INSIGNIFICANT TO US... BUT EVERYTHING IS PERSPECTIVE! SO IF YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES AND USE YOUR IMAGINATION, LIKE THIS....

READY...?
SET?



...YOU OPEN THEM TO HIS POINT OF VIEW! THEN YOU BEGIN TO SEE WHAT A DIFFERENCE VIEWPOINT CAN MAKE!

BUT DON'T BE FRIGHTENED, WILBUR! IT HAPPENS TO BE A "WORKER" AND NOT LIKELY TO HARM US! LET'S FOLLOW HIM!



DID YOU EVER SEE
A MORE PERFECT
EXAMPLE OF
INDUSTRY?

EVERY INDIVIDUAL
LABORING FOR THE
COMMON GOOD--EACH
BRINGS IN A GRAIN OF
FOOD TO BE STORED
FOR LATER USE!

OH, OH! HERE'S THE FELLOW
TO LOOK OUT FOR..... THOSE
TOUGH WARRIORS THAT GUARD
THE ENTRANCE TO THE ANT HILL!
THEY'RE THE SOLDIERS
AND POLICEMEN OF
THE COLONY!

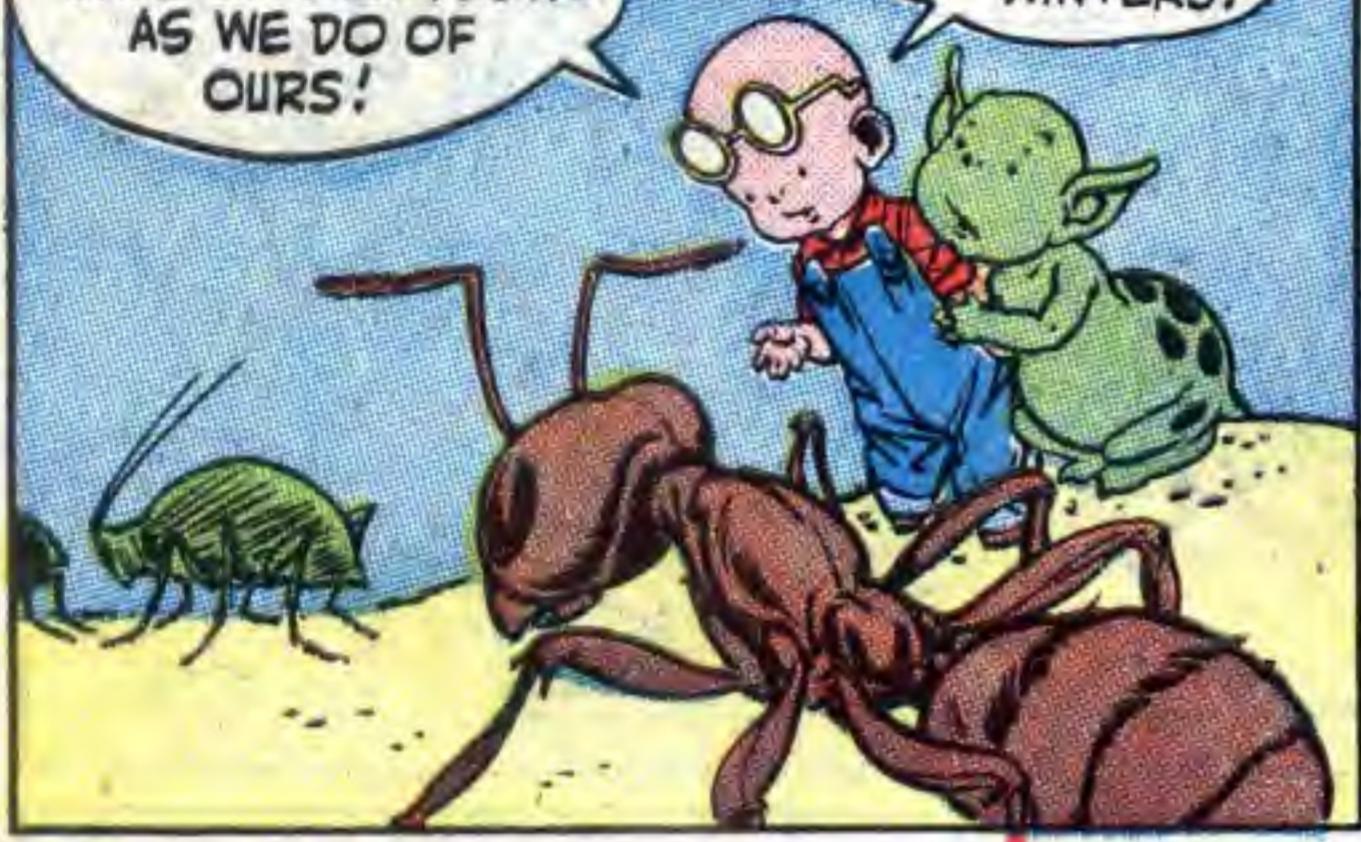
THAT SENTINEL IS GIVING US
A CHALLENGE WITH HIS ANTENNAE!
HE CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE UP
HIS MIND ABOUT US...
LUCKILY!

NOW BEGINS WHAT
I EXPECT WILL BE
A VERY INSTRUCTIVE
TOUR!

AH! HERE'S SOMETHING VERY
CURIOUS TO SEE! THE ANTS'
COWS BEING TAKEN OUT TO
PASTURE! YES, IT MAY SOUND
INcredible, BUT THESE
ANTS ACTUALLY KEEP
COWS!

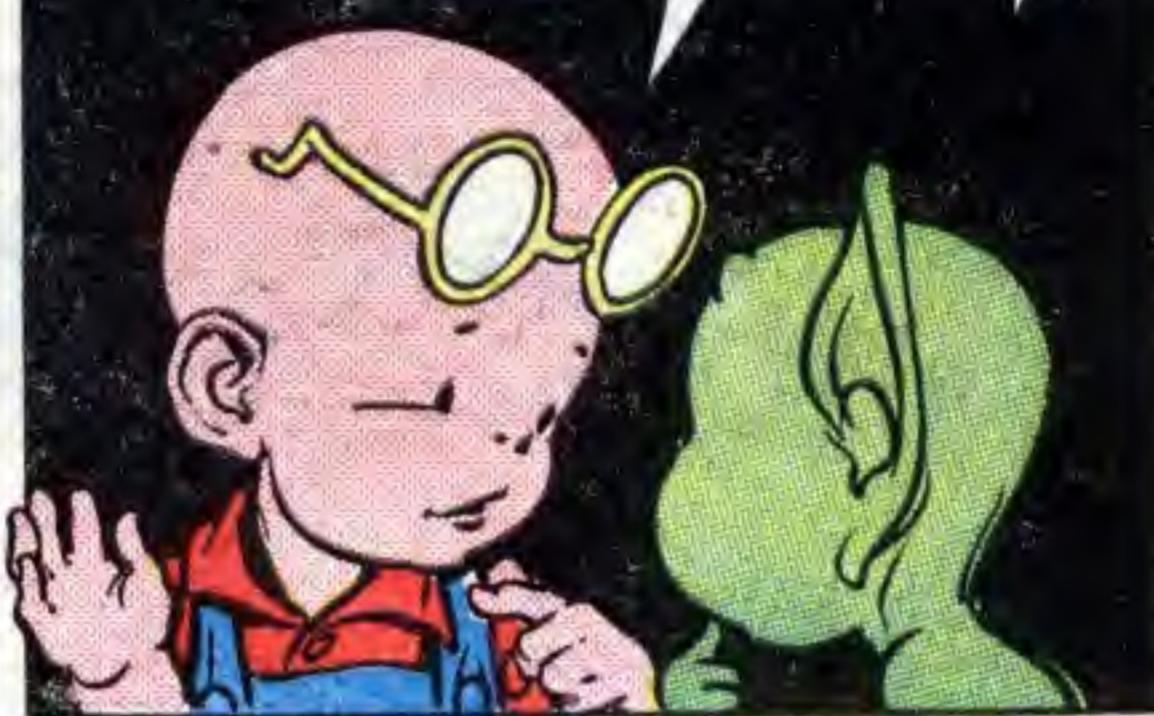
THEY ARE LITTLE APHIDS-- PLANT LICE WHICH FEED ON LEAVES AND PRODUCE HONEY DEW! THE ANTS LOVE THIS HONEY AND TAKE AS GOOD CARE OF THEIR COWS AS WE DO OF OURS!

AND WELL THEY MIGHT, FOR SOMETIME THE HONEY IS ALL THE FOOD THEY HAVE DURING HARD WINTERS!



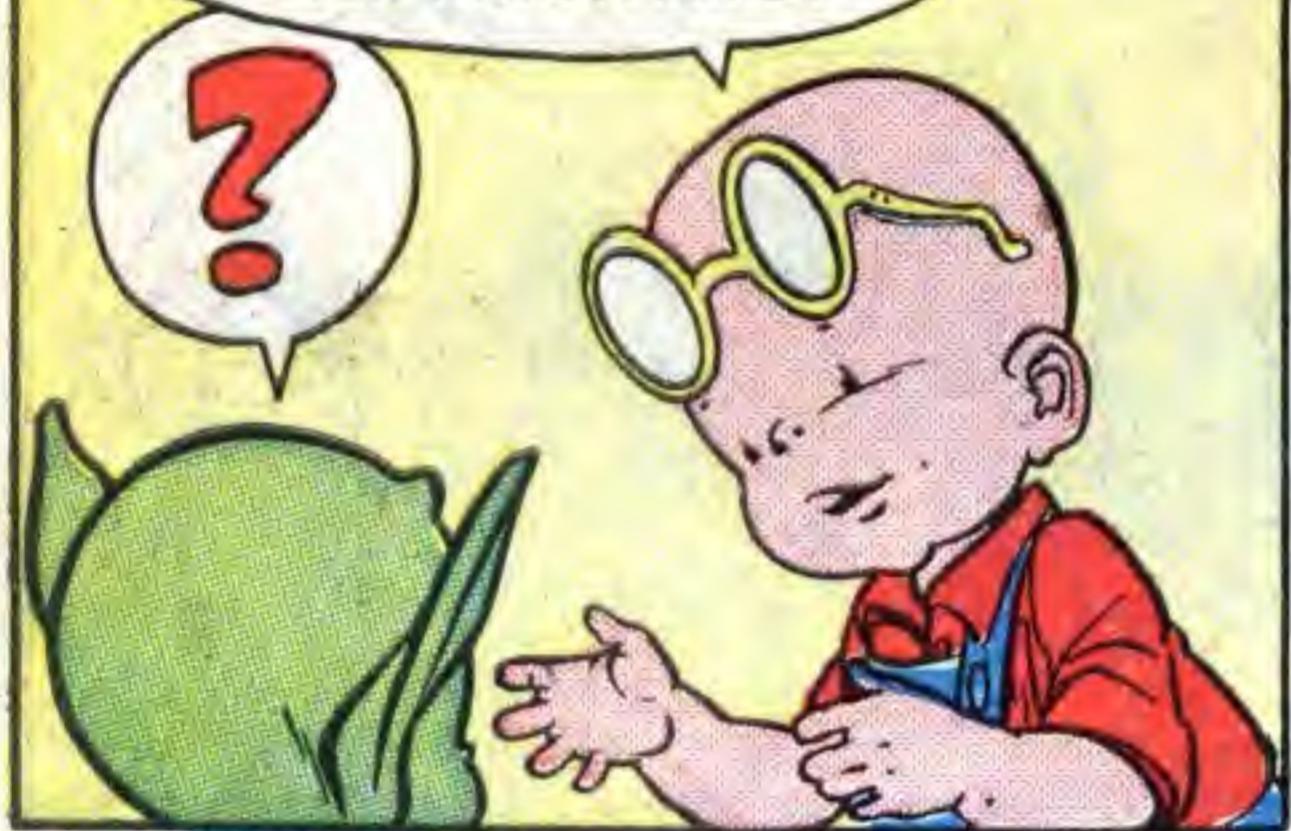
YOU'RE SURPRISED, WILBUR? BUT THAT'S ONLY A SMALL PART OF IT! NOT ONLY DO ANTS LIVE IN A HIGHLY DEVELOPED SOCIAL SYSTEM VERY LIKE MAN'S, BUT THEY HAVE PRACTICALLY THE SAME VIRTUES AND FAULTS!

?

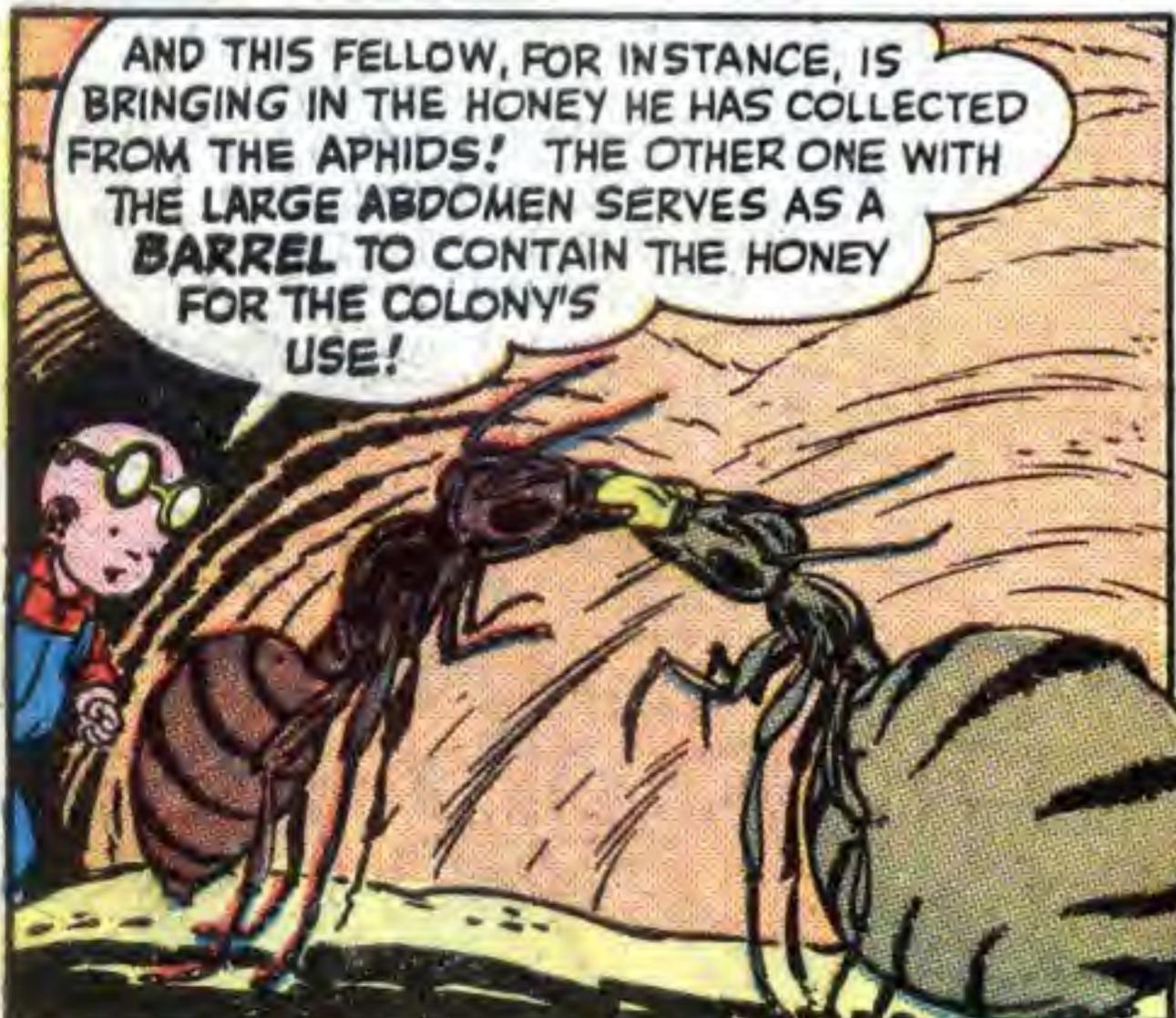


IT'S A MARVELOUS LITTLE WORLD IN ITSELF WITH LAWS, WARS, AND INDUSTRIES, AND A WISE PROVIDENCE IN STORAGE OF FOOD FOR FUTURE USE! THEY EVEN HAVE FARMS!

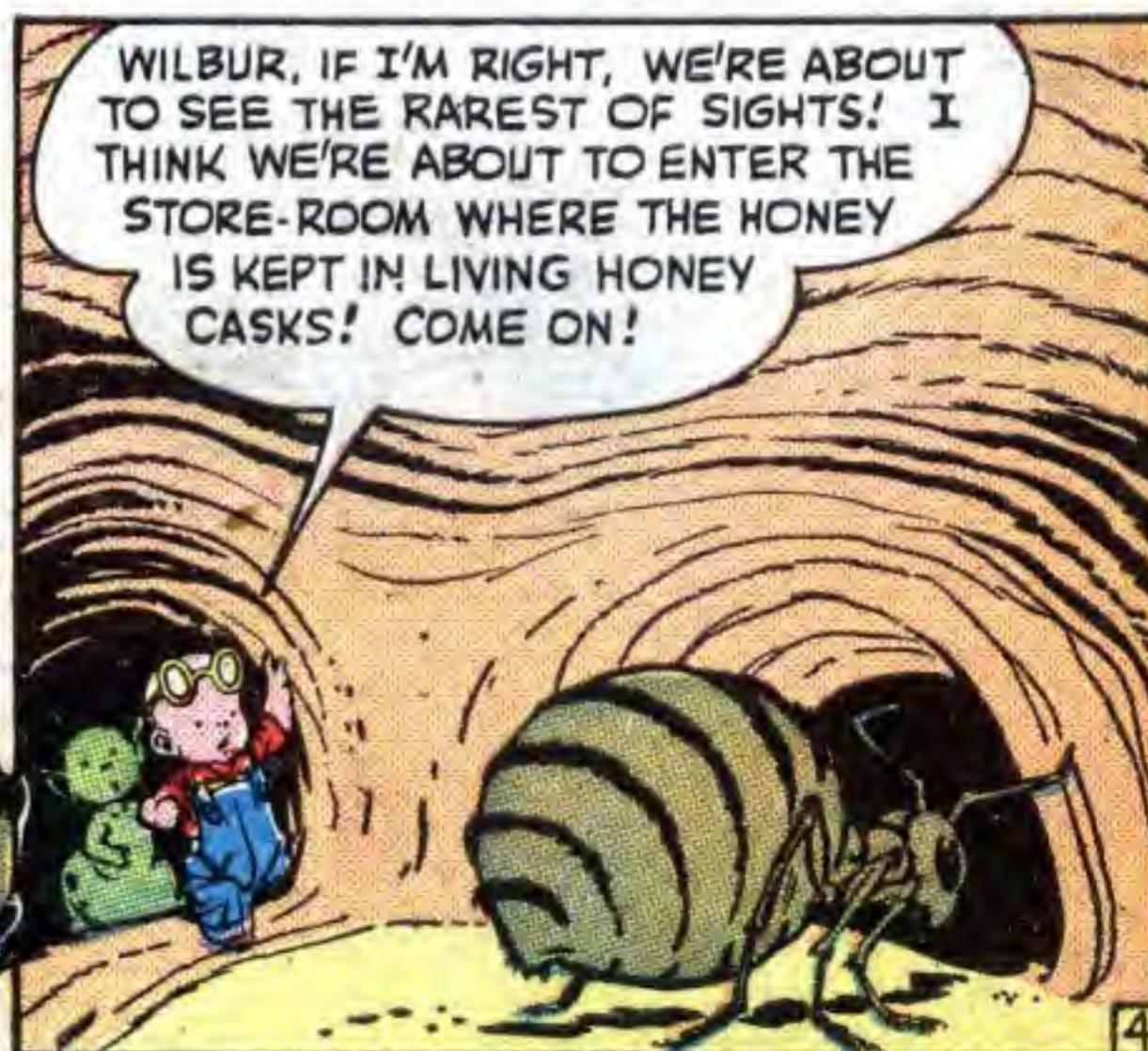
SEE THAT WORKER BEARING A LEAF IN ITS JAWS? WELL, THAT LEAF WILL BE CHEWED INTO A PASTE --- THEN FUNGUS OR MOLD GROWS ON IT, WHICH THEY USE FOR FOOD!

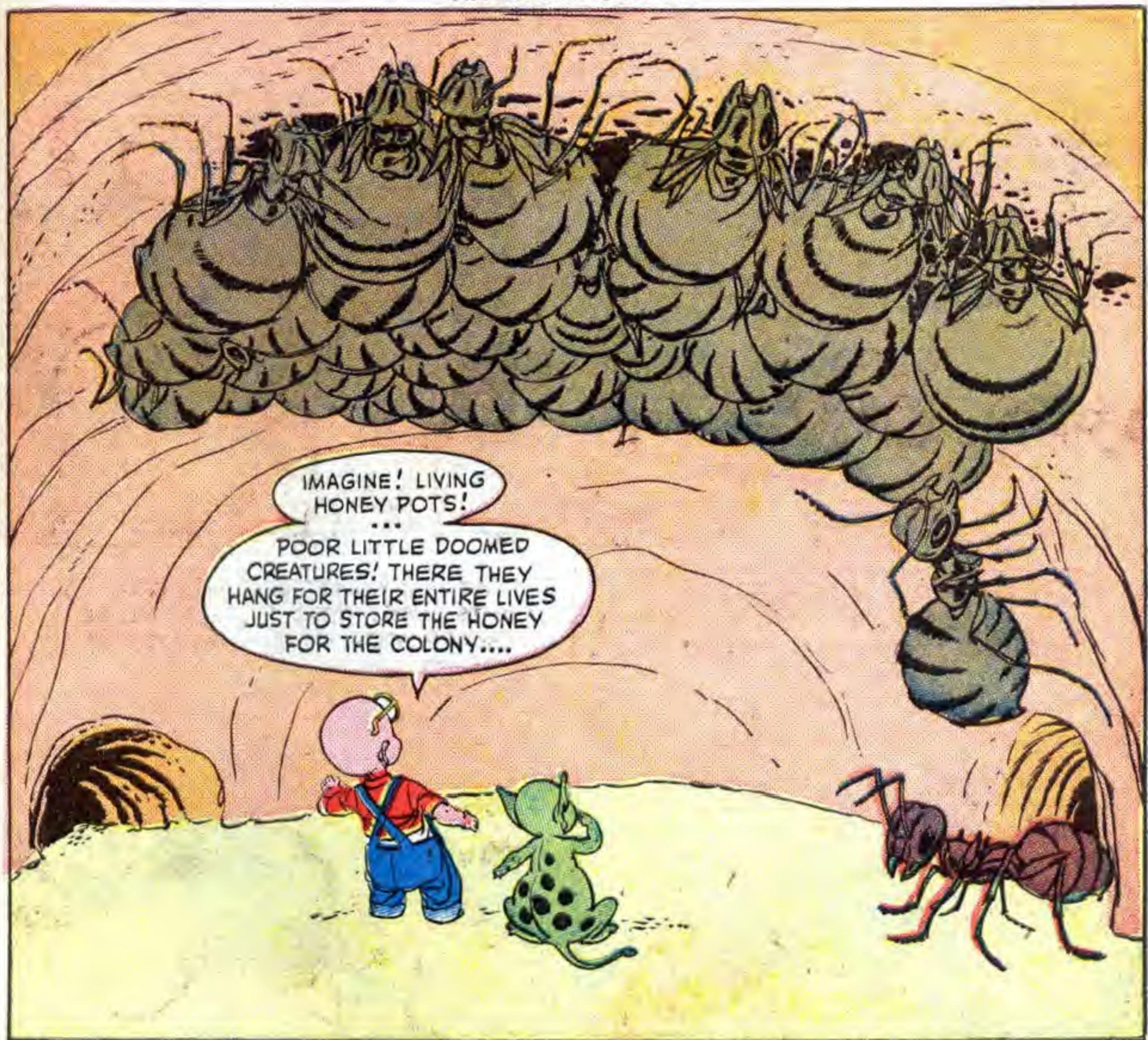


AND THIS FELLOW, FOR INSTANCE, IS BRINGING IN THE HONEY HE HAS COLLECTED FROM THE APHIDS! THE OTHER ONE WITH THE LARGE ABDOMEN SERVES AS A BARREL TO CONTAIN THE HONEY FOR THE COLONY'S USE!



WILBUR, IF I'M RIGHT, WE'RE ABOUT TO SEE THE RAREST OF SIGHTS! I THINK WE'RE ABOUT TO ENTER THE STORE-ROOM WHERE THE HONEY IS KEPT IN LIVING HONEY CASKS! COME ON!





NATIONAL COMICS

A SWARM OF THEM! AND THEY'RE OVERPOWERING ALL DEFENDERS!

THIS IS NO PLACE FOR US! BUT LET'S HOPE NONE OF THEM TAKES NOTICE OF US BEFORE WE FIND THE WAY OUT!

THE RAIDERS ARE THE FIERCE RED AMAZONS! THEY'VE COME TO CAPTURE COCOONS TO HATCH AS THEIR SLAVES!

WELL, AT LAST, HERE WE ARE OUT AGAIN! IT WAS AN INTERESTING JOURNEY AND NOT WITHOUT EXCITEMENT ... BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO CARRY IMAGINATION TOO FAR!

BUT JUST THINK, A COMPLETE WORLD IN ITSELF IS RIGHT UNDER OUR FEET! MAYBE THAT'S WHY WE PAY NO ATTENTION ... BECAUSE IT'S SO CLOSE!

KING SOLOMON WAS VERY WISE AND IT WAS HE WHO INSPIRED THE IMMORTAL ADVICE: "GO TO THE ANT, THOU SLUGGARD, CONSIDER HER WAYS AND BE WISE!"

BUT THE HIGHEST PRAISE TO THE ANT IS FROM CHINA! TO WRITE THE WORD "ANT" YOU FIRST DRAW THE SYMBOL FOR "INSECT," THEN ADD TO IT "UNSELFISHNESS," "JUSTICE," AND "COURTESY" --- THE TWO SYMBOLS SIGNIFY "ANT"!

I CAN'T THINK OF A MORE PERFECT TRIBUTE, CAN YOU?

中義



The Insult That Turned a CHUMP into a CHAMP



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How to increase physical fitness

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**CHANGE A
TIRE
AT NIGHT—**

More Quickly... More Safely!



4 - If you ever have to change a tire at night, use a flashlight to help you. The "Eveready" flashlight will give you the extra light you need. The "Eveready" battery has more power than any other battery. That's why it gives you the best source of instant lighting for emergencies. Use "Eveready" batteries.

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